SUNDAY
October 22, 2023

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AID ARRIVES

Trucks carrying relief enter Gaza from Egypt

UN official says the delivery will start 'a sustainable effort to provide essential supplies' to war-torn Gaza

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India-Canada spat aggravates visa woes for Indians

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Why did the Supreme Court not allow same-sex marriage?

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India takes on New Zealand in top of the table clash

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Gaganyaan test flight successful

Recouping from setbacks, it simulates an abort situation to demonstrate a crew escape system; Navy recovers crew module from Bay of Bengal

Hemanth C.S.
SRIHARIKOTA

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully completed its first test flight to demonstrate a crew escape system for the Gaganyaan mission that aims at putting humans in space, after twice rescheduling the flight due to bad weather and then temporarily delaying the launch just five seconds before scheduled lift-off on Saturday due to an anomaly in the system.

The Test Vehicle Abort Mission 1 (TV-D1) flight was meant to simulate an abort situation, and demonstrate the system to safely carry the crew module out of the vehicle in case of emergencies.

The test flight of Gaganyaan lifts off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre on Saturday. PTI

Delay before launch

Though it was scheduled to lift off at 8 a.m. on Saturday, it was rescheduled for 8:30 a.m., when the mission director initiated the automatic launch sequence, with the lift-off again rescheduled for 8:45 a.m. However, just five seconds before lift-off, the launch was put on hold as the engine ignition did not happen nominally.

"The engine ignition has to happen in the nominal course. What has happened is the onboard computer which is doing the function has withheld the launch in view of the anomaly observed," ISRO chairman S. Somanath said.

ISRO scientists and engineers at Sriharikota quickly corrected all anomalies and sprang back to launch the TV-D1 at 10 a.m.

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Sharif returns to Pakistan ahead of next year's polls

Associated Press
ISLAMABAD

Former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif signing a legal document after his arrival at the Islamabad airport on Saturday. AFP

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif returned home on Saturday, ending four years of self-imposed exile in London as he seeks to win the support of voters in the general election due in January.

The 73-year-old leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) is expected to face tough competition from the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf, the party of his main rival and former Prime Minister, Imran Khan, who is now in jail for corruption.

Speaking to supporters in Lahore later, Sharif said he wished to put the country on the path of growth, maintain good relations with neighbours, and find solutions to issues, including Kashmir.

Sharif stepped down as Prime Minister in 2017 after he was disqualified for life from holding public office, following a probe into his family's wealth after the 2016 Panama Papers leak.

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NEARBY

Scanty rains hit power generation at hydel plants

SHIVAMOGGA
A weak southwest monsoon has led to low water levels in reservoirs this year, in turn impacting power generation in hydel dams. The cumulative water storage in three major hydel dams is only 43.75% of their capacity, forcing KPCL to go for thermal energy and conserve the available water for the coming summer.

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MAGAZINE » 8 PAGES

Dancing to the beat

The second edition of 'Pili Parba' , tiger dance competition, was organised by the Kudla Samskritika Prathisthana in Mangaluru on Saturday. The event saw participation of 15 teams. H.S. MANJUNATH

Divisive flags find no takers at Mangaladevi Navaratri fair

Raghava M.
MANGALURU

Mukesh Singh from Rajasthan has put up a stall, with a saffron flag planted on top, selling an assortment of items from bangles to utensils on the Mangaladevi temple road (or car street) for the Navaratri fair here.

"A group of people came on October 17 morning and asked me to display a saffron flag. I agreed," said Mr. Singh. "But people are not bothered either way and buy what they want."

He said business was down for all traders, irrespective of the community they belonged to and whether they had a saffron flag fluttering on top or not. As many as 82 stalls have been put up for Navaratri at the ancient Mangaladevi temple in Mangaluru and Mr. Singh's is among those with a saffron flag on display.

Communal twist: A saffron flag on display at a stall on Mangaladevi temple road in Mangaluru. H.S. MANJUNATH

The controversy began when the Endowment Department-controlled temple held two rounds of auction and allotted 82 spaces. Of them, six were allotted to Muslims and one was allotted to a trader from the Jain community. A member of the Dakshina Kannada and Udupi District Jatra Vyparastara Samanvaya Samiti said that eight Hindu traders, who were allotted stalls in the auction, in turn had sub-let their stalls to Muslims to do business.

On October 17, Vishwa Hindu Parishad Dakshina Karnataka Pranta joint secretary Sharan Pumpwell and other VHP activists came here and fixed saffron flags on select stalls.

They later gave a call for people to shop in the stalls which displayed saffron flags. The outfit, among other Hindutva groups in coastal Karnataka, had been campaigning for not allowing Muslim traders at temple fairs.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

Mesmerising nine nights

Durga Puja in Kolkata, placed on UNESCO's heritage list, is when celebrations mix art with devotion

Durga Puja is when art meets devotion. When creativity meets culture. When tradition meets fashion. When crowds mean celebration. Every autumn, during the nine evenings known as Navaratri, the whole of east India lights up with festivities, and this being India, east also makes its presence felt in the north, south, and west. There are installations called *pandals* all over the country, hosting not only Goddess Durga and her four children but also depicting the moods of the moment. One *pandal* in New Delhi looks like the new Parliament house; a *pandal* in Bhopal has been designed after the upcoming Ram temple in Ayodhya; also in Bhopal, one *pandal* is celebrating the Chandrayaan; at a pandal in Guwahati, the *aarti* is happening exactly how it happens by the Ganga in Varanasi.

Then there is Kolkata, where the year is split between the time one waits for Durga Puja and when one celebrates Durga Puja. The actual worship is limited only to five days, but the celebration now extends to all the nine nights, especially after the festival earned a place last year in UNESCO's heritage list. There is so much to see – Durga Puja is the biggest outdoor art installation in the world – that even those many nights are not enough. *Pandals*, apart from being works of art, are also social levellers: it doesn't matter who you are, at a puja you are part of the crowd – the crowd that's synonymous with celebration.

Text by: Bishwanath Ghosh

Bedecked pandal: A priest performs Navaratri *aarti* at the American Colony Durga puja mandap in Guwahati. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Mundane matters: Even with festivities in full swing, Bhubaneswar municipality conducts fogging outside a *pandal* thronged by worshippers, as part of its fight against rising dengue cases. BISWARANJAN ROUT

First dekko: The first look of Goddess Durga Idol at the Bengal Club *Pandal* in Mumbai. EMMANUAL YOGINI

One step ahead: A *pandal* in Bhopal modeled on Ayodhya's upcoming Ram temple. A.M. FARUQUI

Classifieds

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BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

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HINDU, MUDALIYAR, Tamil, Doctor–MD, Fellowship–Pediatrics–II year, Dec 92, Puratathi, Kumbam, No Dosham, seeks bridegroom from well settled, well–educated family in the same profession, PG–Engineers, CAs. Contact 9444841350

Tamil Hindu Agamudayar, MBBS, MD, 29 years fair seeks BC doctor groom Ct: 9443010858.

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DOCTOR MD Anaes Hindu Nadar 27/75/170 Seeks EQ Professional Groom From Suitable Family. Brokers Excused. 9976610580

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KAMMA NAIDU, 27/168, MDS., BPS., (Prosthodontics and Implantology) certified BPS Specialist, Uthiratathi, Meenam, Mesham seeks Doctor Groom. Ph: 9842131535

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NATHAMAR UDAYAR, catholic 30 yrs, HR–MNC in Chennai, girl separated shortly with null and void order looking for catholic boy below 33 yrs, premier institute or professional with null and void or unmarried with clean habits, WhatsApp: 6380390185

RC GIRL 26/170cm Working In Microsoft. Parents Keralite Settled In Chennai. Own Business Seeks Chennai Based Groom From a Good Family Background. 98841 85583

NADAR CHRISTIAN girl from well educated, very rich family, fair, God–fearing, very beautiful; employed in a reputed Company drawing good Salary. The boy should be well educated from a Christian rich family. Parents Contact. 98401 29090.

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THONDA MANDALA SAIVA MUDALIYAR Visagam 30/163 officer in Govt Bank Rs.75000 PM Seeks Officer in Banking / LIC / Govt Sector Smart Boy in Same Caste only. Subsect not accepted. 93448 27997 & 95977 70383

MUDALIAR (CNB): 26/ V.Fair, B.E, MS (USA), Business Analyst, MNC, USA, Well settled Family, Seeks Groom Abroad / India – 8939012419

MUDALIAR (CNB) 30/V.Fair & Beautiful, MBA, Project Manager, MNC, Bangalore, Business Family, Seeks Groom– Eng/ Business/ Abroad – 8925019776

HINDU NADAR 34/165 BE 100000per month Divorcee Seeks Suitable Groom KA RAMAN NADAR 9380791999/ 9047192999

RICH MUDALIYAR, 30yrs, BE, ME, MS (US),Working in US, Elite Business Family.Ct: 97100 93999/ 89396 91888

ELITE MUDALIYAR, 30yrs, MBBS, MD, working in Chennai,well Educated Family.Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

(F)–THEVAR (M)–MUDALIAR 29/153 B.Com MBA IT Pooram, Simmam Seek Professional OBC, BC, FC. Ct:9444490554

TAMIL VISWAKARMA Goldsmith Girl 25 / 154cm / Ayilyam M.Sc Chennai. Seeks Groom below 31 years. groomvish@gmail.com

FEMALE, HINDU Maruthuvar, 26Yrs, MDS, Kanni, Hastham Seeks Suitable Doctor Groom Caste No Bar: 9941143320

HINDU NADAR, 25Y Fair, BE, MBA Private. Accenture, Rs.55k pm. Good Family Background Ct : 7397776595

AGAMUDIYAR MARVAR 28/165 MCom Fair Rohini Research Analyst 9L Caste NoBar Seeks Employed Groom 9841314185

SENGUNTHAR DIVORCEE 38 Yrs B.Tech MNC Fair seeks Good looking well Educated Groom same/subsect. CT: 93448-50134.

MUDALIAR 26, BE, MBA, Working UK, 162cm,Fair,well Settled Family Seeks Alliance CNB 8778514465/ 7200866346

SC ADIDRAVIDA Divorced No Child, Age 38 BE EEE Wkg in MNC .Well settled. Seeks Suitable Groom. 9940347310

PILLAI / Mudaliyar Divorced fair Girl Age 32 PG seeks Groom to be in Chennai from Elite Family 9345158257

TAMIL

GROOM WANTED–RICH Mudaliyar, 28yrs, B. Arch, Elite business family in Chennai Cont:9710093999/ 8939691888

NAIDU–CASTE NO Bar. 25y, BDS, Dr.50k/pm Seeks Dr, BE, IT. Good Family Background. Nithya: 7358638363

MBBS DR. TN Govt Chennai 23–02–90 fair slim 165 cm magaram uthiradam 4 Hindu Naidu Elite Family seeks Dr, Class A officer, Business Groom. Any Hindu FC/BC. 9841743266.

BC (KALLAR) Remarriage 39 Yrs M.Sc M.Phil Working in Pvt School (Admin Dept.) seeks good looking & good professional groom from same / equal caste. 9677970128,9486457204

DOCTOR REDDY Elite Family Fair29/ 160 Pooram Simmam MD AIIMS Delhi Seeks Professional Groom CNB 9841047406

Hindu Nadar, 26yrs, PhD. (NanoTech) Gd looking, seeks highly qualified from same caste 9585452877/ 7639366767 e-mail: arjunapandian@hotmail.com

PILLAI / MUDALIAR, 34, MD, Well Settled family seeks Groom aged 34-36 yrs, Engineer/ Business/ Doctor. Contact: 93458 55735

MALAYALAM VISWAKARMA Bride, 24/154, B.E., Civil., settled in Madurai, Upper Middle Class, Good proposals from Kollam or Thiruvananthapuram based family who settled in Madurai or Nearby District. Ct: 76677 65588

GROOM WANTED Elite Mudaliyar, MBBS, MS, 28yrs, well Educated Family. Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

MUDALIAR 28 Fair & beautiful, European educated, Punarpoosam Mithunam, PG Interior Architect, employed in Dubai. Father Director in Dubai seeks employed, well qualified never married Mudaliar/ Pillai professional groom between 30–35yrs in UAE, N.America, Australia or NZ. Ph: 7358–110943 or venkat07041966@gmail.com

SOZHIA VELLALA 25/ 150/ Medium/ Swathi BE(CS) 12 LPA seeks groom from Vellalar/ Pillai/Mudaliar 9597572733

✔ HINDU NADAR, Chennai, Good Looking Truly Fair Doctor Girl, 24yrs, 160 cm, Doing MD Derm, Rich affluent, Only daughter. Seeking suitable PG Dr. with clean habits from Hindu Nadar only. Dad: 9444759246

MUDALIAR 25/160, Fair, Beautiful, BE,SWE, Capegemni,700000.PA, Affluent Family, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

HINDU TAMIL Mudaliar Chennai Girl / 32 /155 /58/MA/HR Mgr/MNC B'lore /Fair Beautiful /Kettai 3rd padham /Viruchigam /Chevvai Dosham /Divorcee No kids /Seeks suitable Mudaliar Grooms Subsect No Bar, Up To 36 Yrs. Contact 9043735140.

HINDU/CHRI, 1992 working Asis Prof (Dr, HOD) Univer Chennai, seeking working groom 9443118355

MOOLAM,VADAKALAI NAITHRABHA Kashyapa 27/173 Fair,PG Emp Abroad Seeks Same Sect Ct:04424613309/9444698964

GROOM WANTED
RC Christian
28 yrs, B.Com MBA, good looking Bride from reputed Business Group in Chennai, Looking from Business / Bureaucrats / Doctor Well to do Family
8015257260

CHRISTIAN GROOM WANTED
DOCTOR MBBS MD
Working in NHS London 39/167 Fair Tamil Protestant CSI Christian Nadar BC Innocent Divorcee no issues seeks Christian Doctor Groom / well settled Professionals in UK/ India. Caste no bar
Ph: 98435 26370

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A Corporate and Big Business Brahmin Family in South India invites alliance for their daughter 29/165 (who has finished masters from top class university). Matching from Affluent Family or Corporate Group.
The Boy should be tall, well educated from big affluent family
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TAMIL

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Tamil Yadava 24 Years, Pooram - Simmam, 156cm / Fair / BE Looking alliance from affluent well educated settled groom.
Mail ID: kkda1099@gmail.com

Iyengar / Thenkalai / Bharadwaj, 25yrs 166cm, Visakam- (2) Ragu Dosham, B.E, MBA, Working in Wipro (HR) Chennai. Middleclass, Seeks Suitable Groom. Same Caste.Ct: 76396 60338.

AD (PR) 30/162cm B.E.,CSE,MS Ph.d working in USA seeks USA working groom, Age 30 - 33yrs, well Educated, Loving, Non- Vegetarian, same caste prefd email: shreebalan26@gmail.com Whats App: 97506 47711

HINDU Nadar, 29yrs/ 160cm Moolam Dhanush, B.Tech(CS) Working-CISCO Bangalore seeks Groom with similar Background. Ct: 91768 00819

Kongu Vellala Gounder, 29/165cms, MBBS, MD-Pharmacology, Senior Resident Medical college, Chennai. Rs.90,000/-pm. Seeks Suitable Qualified Groom,29-34yrs. Ct: 95511 44484

CHRISTIAN SC/AD 35/160 M.Tech, Govt. Bank officer, Seeks Groom Dr. Er. any Govt officer.Ct 9940130074

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SEEKING BRIDE for 45 years old tamil working in Wipro, caste no bar. Contact 9597113308 / rvivekin.cbe@gmail.com

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COIMBATORE 47 Years, 172 cm, 68kg, monthly 1 lakh, no demands Email: hereiam_hi@yahoo.com Ph: 9677776525

S.SPL DOCTOR (Tamil, Dec–91/185 cm/v.fair, clean habits, Hastham, working in Kochi) needs a noble, family oriented, tall, v.fair, PG clinical doctor /well qualified non medico bride from kongu vellalar, pillai, mudaliyar, kamma / general castes. Age 26–29 years. Parents: 93425–29547/90721–18800

DIVORCEE

SEEKING BRIDE for a 32–yr divorcee [no child] native of Puducherry, B.Tech MBA, MNC job in Bangalore, Tamil Vishwakarma, caste & language no bar. Cont. 9686107007.

RC 1973 / 165cm MA MBA, Asst.Man. Govt, 1L pm, Chennai, Divorce seeks suitable Bride Ct: 8148842983 CNB

TAMIL

SEEKING EDUCATED Bride for our Son Muslim (Tamil) 37/180 Divorcee Engineer Working in Gulf. Child with Mother. 99408 71319

CSI Christian 28/165 B.D.S Doctor full time Practice, Chennai, good looking only son, well to do parents Dad - Dr, Mom - Engr seeks Bride CSI christian,fair,good looking well to do family. Ph: 94440 57211

ADI DRAVIDAR 32 BE Nationalized bank nuclear family seeks progressive home loving Chennai based employed girl, below 28. Ct: 8825426736

Tamil Muslim Groom 39, 5'1", Liberal, has PhD, earns 30 LPA, native of Madurai, working in Bangalore seeks Bride 29-37 Yrs. Call 9443035373

VISWAKARMA, 37, MA, Journalist, 6 Lakh PA seeks Good Looking & Educated Bride.Caste no bar. 7401297233

VANNIYAR, 30/172CM/ Swathi/ Fair, MS, USA Employed seeks Educated suitable Bride. Contact: 9444678830.

CSI/ Christian 27yrs / 165cms, MBA, Working, 3.7LPA, Chennai seeks suitable Bride.Ct: 9677281464/9840139960

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BRAHMIN IYER, 29, 188 cms, Software Professional, MS. Lives in USA. Parents are Entrepreneurs. Family is financially well off. Looking for an amiable match. Contact: 6366448344

MUDALIYAR, 27, 180 cms, Businessman, MBA. Lives in Chennai. Belongs to an affluent business family with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible match. Contact: 6366448344

SAIVA PILLAI, 33, 175 cms, Film Director & Producer, B.Tech. Lives in Chennai. Father is a retired person. Mother is a Municipal Commissioner. Family is affluent with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366448343

NADAR, 30, 173 cms, Entrepreneur, MBA. Lives in Chennai. Parents are Entrepreneurs. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

BRAHMIN IYENGAR, 31, 165 cms, Product Manager, M.Sc. Lives in the UK. Father is retired person. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

MUDALIYAR, 33, 170 cms, Doctor, MD. Lives in Chennai. Father is retired. Mother is an Entrepreneurs. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448344

KONGUVELLA GOUNDER, 27, 165 cms, Doctor, MD. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a compatible match. Contact: 6366448343

PILLAI, 29, 175 cms, Doctor. Lives in Bangalore. Father is retired person. Mother is a Doctor. Family is financially well off. Looking for an amiable match. Contact: 6366448344

ADI DRAVIDAR, 30, 155 cms, Doctor, MBBS. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for an amiable match. Contact: 6366448344

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AD/SC Girl, 28, B.E.(ECE) Revathy-4 Employed Chennai seeks well Educated, Employed SC Boy. Ct:9176716076

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KAMMA NAIDU bride Elite family 29/ 170 BBA IMBA,UK Business Sadayam Kumbha seeks same community PG Elite groom in & around Chennai 9944236959

GROOM WANTED Rich Naidu , 26yrs, BE, Working in MNC, Elite business Family Contact:9962791888/ 9710093999

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Call: 89256 40111

Balija Naidu, 27/152cm, PG Graduate Fair, MNC- Chennai, seeks well settled Groom below 30yrs. Ct: 63809 84534, e-mail: saanvigklr@gmail.com

BALIJA NAIDU 55yrs, Working in Pvt., Co. seeks decent groom age between 60-70yrs. Ct: 70925 69171

Kshatriya Raju, Telugu Bride, Fair 27/162, M.Tech (IT) seeks groom from the same caste. Chennai, Contact: 9498310558.

URDU

P.G.DOCTOR SMU Chennai Based, Parents Seeks Doctor/ Engineer Alliance from Tamil Nadu/ Bengaluru for their Daughter 32/5.6. Ct: 98415 24064

DIVORCEE

WANTED DIVORCEE and widow bride for divorced Naidu doctor groom age 35 yrs Chennai caste no bar and brokers excluded Ph 9884724161

SOUTH INDIAN Brahmin divorcee (March 84) working as Senior Data Analyst in Bangalore seeks suitable Alliance from Bangalore, Contact: kamala7591@gmail.com

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HINDI

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MALAYALAM

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NAIR BOY, 30/180, Pooram, Suddha Jathakam, BE (Civil), MS (USA), engaged as Executive Director in Family Business having Pan India Operations, Settled in Chennai Invites Proposals of Professionally Qualified Nair Girls with Suddha Jathakam. Contact: 9840397130/ 9962597100.

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SAURASTRA

SAURASTRA, 37, MBA, Pvt. Manager, 1.15L PM, Hastam, Kanni, Chennai – 63, Seeks CNB (veg) Bride 9381725577

TAMIL

RC CHRISTIAN, 41yrs/170, B.E Software Engineer,Chennai,never married,seeks educated bride,CT–9500188067

37 Years (M.Sc Nursing) Kongu vellala Gounder male nurse working at Kuwait seeks suitable bride. No restriction. CT:9443240384, sen1042@gmail.com

SUITABLE BRIDE for a spiritual Christian slim PG surgeon with brown complexion 36/ 173/ 64 Assistant Prof. Govt. Medical College Hospital Tamilnadu. Residence and clinic at Chennai. Awaiting divorce no children. Send profile to selvarajans89@gmail.com

AGAMUDAYAR, B.E., 30yrs, 172cm, Pooradam, Fair, Software Engineer, 31 Lakhs PA seeks SWE/ BE/ Dr Bride. Ph: 8508099103, 6382086919

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TAMIL

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BRIDE WANTED Hindu Nadar 34/170, BE, 300000, Working in Bangalore. KA Raman Nadar: 9380791999/ 9047192999

MUDALIYAR AGE 46 Well Settled Groom, Seeks 45 To 55 Well Settled Helping Minded, Widower, Divorcee Individual Person Good companion, Age, Caste No Bar. Ct: 8838225041

MUDALIYAR, KETTAI,37/165, M. Tech.,(Ph.D), HOD, Pvt.Engg. College, Pondy Seeks Bride 29 to 36yrs 9942257578

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TAMIL

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ELITE MUDALIYAR 30yrs B.Tech, MS (US) Working in US, Seeks Elite Family Background 9176718886/ 8939691888

BRIDE WANTED Rich Naidu, 32yrs, BE, MS(US), Working in US, Elite Family Background 9962791888/ 8939691888

HINDU NADAR 30/172, BE, IRS, 600000, USA, Seeks Suitable Bride Ct:K.A Raman Nadar 9380791999/ 9047192999

HINDU SC AD, 37/ BE/ PGD HRM/ Director– L&D, Sftwr Co., Chennai, Unmarried Mob: 7824035052

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VADAGALAI IYENGAR 30,172, MBA, kasibha,Kirthigai, Working SBI Seeks suitable bride 9952903382/ 9790742346

BRAHMIN IYER VADULAM Uthiram Nov 1977 BSc(MCA)MNC, IT 24Lakh PA Seeks unmarried Brahmin Girl 9841071359

BRAHMIN IYER Kousiga Gothram, Magam born july 1988 working in Sharjah 240000 AED per annum seeking unmarried Brahmin girl. Call 9176641005

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Caste No Bar
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96000 10420
drakpchennai@gmail.com

TAMIL

HINDU Thuluvavellala Mudaliar 33yrs MBA, Asst.Mngr in Chennai,vegetarian legally Divorced seeks Edu. Girl from a well settled family. CNB. 82484 23389.

HINDU YADAVA, 57, Govt.Employee, Widower, Vegetarian seeks suitable Vegetarian Bride or Widow. Caste No Bar. Send Biodata to 9443157353

IYER SMARTHA Brahmins 27/ 180, Moola, Dhanur, Vashista, Fair, B.Tech., Sr.SWE Chennai seeks professionally qualified IT Bride. Ct: 7397061997

HINDU SC Revathi,Meenam 1986 Govt. Bank Dep. Manager seek suitable bride.CT:9486516501,9894559191

PILLAI 36yrs Ayilyam masters in Bank ing and Finance, working in MNC 25L PA seeks suitable Educated Girl from decent family same caste.9445068271

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NAIDU 27/180, Handsome,BE,MS,Engineer,MNC,USA.125000. USD.PA, Affluent Family, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

✔ BALIJA, 26/164 Avitam, Magaram, BE, MBA, V.Fair MNC seeks working, Fair,Gd Looking Bride. Ct:9444971365 Mail: mkrishnakumar1965@gmail.com

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MEDICAL

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THE HINDU
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Traffic police raise red flag over narrow Gandhi Bazaar Main Road

Concerns over handling of emergency situations if a vehicle breaks down or if there is a congestion

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

The partly renovated Gandhi Bazaar roads and footpaths. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

The redoing of Gandhi Bazaar Main Road is almost completed, and it is expected to be inaugurated in a month. However, voices of protest against the project persist. The city's traffic police have expressed concern over the narrowing of the road carriageway, especially between Gandhi Bazaar Circle and Karanji Anjaneya Circle, since it might prove to be a challenge during emergency situations.

The stretch was supposed to be "pedestrian only" with wide footpaths, but the pedestrianisation plan seems to have been dropped.

Road width

The Gandhi Bazaar Main Road, which used to see over 5,000 vehicles during peak hours before the work began, now doesn't have a uniform road width. The stretch from Tagore Circle to Gandhi Bazaar Circle is wide, but the road narrows to 23 feet (2 lanes) from Gandhi Bazaar Circle to Karanji Anjaneya Temple and widens again.

"It is a standard practice that the width of the road carriageway has to be uniform. Now that the road has been narrowed to two lanes in the middle portion, there are concerns over handling emergency situations, like if a vehicle breaks down or there is congestion," said M.N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner (Traffic), Bengaluru.

Traffic police sources said twice, ambulances had got stuck in the narrow stretch. Given that there are several houses and shops on the stretch, this is a concern.

Permission not sought

No permission was sought from the Bengaluru Traffic Police to narrow the road carriageway, sources said. "Our approval was only sought post-facto. The only permission that was sought was to white-top the road, which we gave. That did not say anything of the road carriageway being narrowed," a senior official said.

N.S. Mukunda of Bengaluru Praja Vedike, a resident of the area who has been opposing some aspects of the project, alleged that there has been no transparency from day one.

"Though public consultation was held, all objections were railroaded and not considered. The narrowing of the road carriageway is expected to create congestion not only on the road but also on adjoining residential bylanes. The narrowing also poses risks in case of any emergency," he said.

Abutting trees

However, Lokesh M, Chief Engineer (Projects), Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, said the width of the carriageway of the road was not uniform due to abutting trees. "We have only ensured a uniform road carriageway of 23 feet with wide footpaths for street vendors and pedestrians," he said, adding all stakeholders were consulted before the project commenced.

Following intense opposition from the residents and local businesses, the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) has tentatively dropped the proposal for pedestrianisation of the stretch between Gandhi Bazaar Circle and Karanji Anjaneya Circle. "There has been opposition to pedestrianising this stretch of the road. I have asked DULT to reconsider their proposal, and they have yet to come back to us. A decision favouring people's sentiments will be taken in this regard," local MLA Uday Garudachar said.

Residents have also been demanding that the road be widened again to at least 40 feet. "The carriageway was reduced as the road stretch was supposed to be pedestrianised, and ample space was earmarked for pedestrians and street vendors. Now that the pedestrianisation proposal has been dropped, we demand that the road carriageway be widened to at least 40 feet again," Mr. Mukunda said.

Raid on brothel exposes Aadhaar racket

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

A recent raid by the police at a brothel which was being run in Bengaluru, has now led to an investigation into an alleged racket of generating fake Aadhaar cards, Voter's IDs, and other government documents.

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) on October 19 filed a complaint at Hebbal police station about the racket of generating fake government identity cards, following which the police have now commenced the probe.

Notices issued

Two days after the complaint was filed by the CCB, the Hebbal police have issued notices to three accused in the case, Mounesh Kumar, Bhagat, Raghavendra, who were running an "online service centre" in the Hebbal police jurisdiction.

A CCB officer said, "After we conducted the raid on the brothel, we usually check for their identity and

According to sources, the sex workers were given fake Aadhaar cards

we found that the address in the Aadhaar card was wrong. Upon a probe, we developed suspicion that the cards were fake."

According to sources, the sex workers were given fake Aadhaar cards.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (North) Saidulu Adavath told *The Hindu*, "We have issued notices to the accused in the case and the complaint was filed by the CCB."

Minister denies link

Meanwhile, a photograph of one of the accused, Mounesh Kumar, with Minister for Urban Development B.S. Suresh (Byrathi) started doing the rounds on social media.

Mr. Suresh told *The Hindu* that Mounesh belonged to his constituency, but he was not aware that he was involved in fraudulent activities.

Bank transfers ₹17 lakh of private company to cyber fraudsters

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

It is not unusual for laymen to fall into the trap of cyber fraudsters. But in a rare case that unfolded in Bengaluru, a public sector bank was duped, causing losses to the tune of ₹ 17 lakh to a private company. An FIR has been registered at West CEN police station.

In July, Bengaluru's main branch of a public sector bank received a letter via email requesting transfer of money. The email ID and the letterhead which it contained were similar to a company that has a cash credit account in the same branch. Both the letterhead and the email id had errors, but had sufficient similarities to fool the bank.

The Managing Director (MD) of the private company talking to *The Hindu* said the bank also received a call from a person disguised as the MD. Even the caller ID app showed the same name, which led the bank manager to trust the identity of the caller. The caller said that as he had to make some deposits in two banks, he wanted money to be transferred to those accounts.

In the letterhead, the fraudsters had forged the signatures of the MD which they are suspected to have accessed online in some of the documents. "The caller asked to transfer ₹9.12 lakh to one account and ₹8.78 lakh to another bank account. The bank diligently made the transfer," the MD said.

The MD further said the bank failed to recognise that the letterhead and email ID were fake despite such a transaction being requested by the company multiple times.

"Although, I was away from the country, I brought this to the notice of the bank the same day and later, after I returned, I filed a complaint. But the money has not been recovered yet and according to me, they should not consider this transfer under my company."

Group insurance amount to martyred personnel increased to ₹50 lakh: CM

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah with family members of police martyrs in Bengaluru, on Saturday. PTI

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced on Saturday that the group insurance amount for police personnel who die on duty will be increased from ₹20 lakh to ₹50 lakh.

Speaking at the Police Remembrance Day programme after paying tribute to martyrs at the Martyrs' Park on Mysuru Road, he said the police system works to enhance the dignity of the State and the government as there is a direct relationship between development and law and order.

There will be more investment when the law and order is proper. This will increase job creation and speed up development.

As a result, the per capita income of the people of the country will also increase, he explained, urging the police to strictly maintain law and order.

Apart from the need to effectively tackle cybercrimes, he also said fake news creating unrest and spreading hatred should be dealt with by taking strict legal action against those spreading it.

"It is necessary to provide more safety and security to women, children and senior citizens. Smooth traffic system should be more efficient. Thus, additional police posts have been created and additional women and traffic stations have been started. ₹100 crore will be given for the purchase of new vehicles," he said, adding that ₹450 crore will be provided to construct 2125 houses for police personnel and ₹100 crore has been provided for the health benefit of police personnel and officials.

He also said seven police public schools are being started in seven districts for the education of children of police personnel and the government is also starting police canteens.

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>
> **SIDDARAMAIAH,** Chief Minster

Queer couples pin hopes on amendment to Special Marriage Act to pave way for adoption

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

Many queer couples feel that with a change in law, societal attitude towards adoption will also evolve. FILE PHOTO

Optimism has dwindled for a queer couple after a two-year struggle to adopt a child. Between 2015 and 2017, Shobhna S. Kumar and her partner met multiple officials of the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), spoke to several adoption agencies, visited orphanages, and sought help from advocates. The couple first began their search online after they decided to bring up a child through adoption. Today, they have all but given up.

"We were denied adoption because we are different. It is immoral to deny the right to any human being, and it is inhuman to deny orphan children the care and love of the family. We ran from pillar to post each day, hoping that we could succeed in our efforts, but reality had a different tale to offer. Now we have aged a little and have to give up," said Ms. Kumar.

She said there are many same-sex couples living together wanting to adopt children. If the Union government amends the Special Marriage Act of 1954 to recognise marriage and allow adoption, both couples and children will have an opportunity to live a happy life.

Yogi and Kabeer, a gay couple, have a different story to tell. Although the idea of adoption has crossed their minds, they have not made any attempts. Kabeer thinks in the present climate, where the majority voice is valued, bringing up a child may be traumatic. "The law not allowing the practice is one thing, and societal acceptance is another. The society does not accept the child as one of its own, and children will be isolated," said Mr. Kabeer.

Mr. Kabeer, however, feels that if the laws are changed to facilitate the needs of queer couples, society will also evolve, and he would be readily adopting children.

"There are children who are outcasts from their families for being gay or falling in with the LGBTQ+ community. We wish to provide love and care to them."

British import

In 2022, a petition was raised on Change.org, demanding the allowing of adoption for a couple - Anushka and Kaveri (names changed). The petition said, "Like many women, Anushka and Kaveri have always had one dream - to have a child of their own." The petition for them was raised by Sandhya Honawar of the Nguvu collective.

Ms. Honawar said thousands of children have been orphaned after the pandemic.

"The very notion of immorality that the policymakers have towards same-sex partnership is a British import. India, from time immemorial, has had an inclusive approach to sex. There are carvings in India about same sex, and the present BJP government should view these. The idea that only heterosexual couples can nurture children and that the child needs both a man and a woman is patriarchal. On the other hand, the population of same-sex couples is minuscule and does not make up for vote banks. Many women were hoping that the SC may allow adoption, and now, they hope the government can do something about it," said Ms. Honawar.

A mixed bag for queer students in educational institutions

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

A popular deemed-to-be university in southeast Bengaluru was recently in the news for sending a non-binary person (biologically female) home for wearing a lungi to the ethnic day celebrations on the campus. Similar dress coding instances and heteronormative culture in educational institutions beg the question of how inclusive colleges and universities in Bengaluru are, especially when it comes to the queer community. Interactions with students, faculty members and managements of different educational institutions revealed that while a few institutions have led the way with gender neutral washrooms, pride clubs and on-campus counsellors, others have a long way to go, even with basic things like understanding pronouns.

Kiran Jeevan, Placements and Public Relations Officer, St Joseph's University, said, "Our university is very inclusive. The preferred pronoun of every person is provided along with their programme details. We invite gay and transgender activists, and ensure that there is enough sensitisation on campus. We also have gender neutral washrooms (with no signage) on campus."

However, there seems to be a lack of awareness about such facilities as a transfeminine person from St. Joseph's University said that she avoided drinking much water throughout the day to avoid the anxiety that comes from using the girls' washroom on campus. "I usually wear a mask and avoid speaking when I go to the washroom. My friends, who are very supportive, accompany me," she said.

National Law School of India University (NLSIU) and Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) also said they have gender neutral washrooms on campus. They also have queer cells and clubs, which conduct various activities for the community.

Most queer students said that their friends are understanding, accepting and affirming, and that the problems mostly exists with a select few members of the faculty and management.

"While friends are supportive, teachers look at you differently when you dress differently. For instance, if a guy wears a tote bag or pearl necklace or a scrunchie, then he gets judged for the same," said a gay student from a deemed-to-be university.

A faculty member from the same university, who is also queer, said that the institution is not as queer friendly as it should be. "There are a lot of homophobic people, including faculty members. Diversity is not welcome here. There are people from all streams who find it difficult to comprehend that homosexuals can be normal," the faculty member said.

A queer student from another university highlighted that a section of people in colleges think that LGBTQ cells could turn into dating clubs, as they only associate the spectrum with sexual activities.

Psychology Departments in most institutions seem to be a safe haven for queer students. A non-binary student from a private university, who studies in the psychology department, said that while other branches had judgemental faculty members and people who made homophobic jokes, their department is extremely understanding.

Students, managements of colleges and universities face their own challenges. A management member from a university in southeast Bengaluru said that with religious, linguistic and sexual minorities all being present on campus, ensuring that everyone gets the representation they ask for is difficult.

J. Surya Prasad, Vice-Chancellor, PES University, said that growing up should happen from all sides for a systematic change for better inclusivity. "With all the exposure from around the globe, today's generation is very evolved. Today, it is all about inclusivity. Our university has committees in place for all kinds of students," he said.

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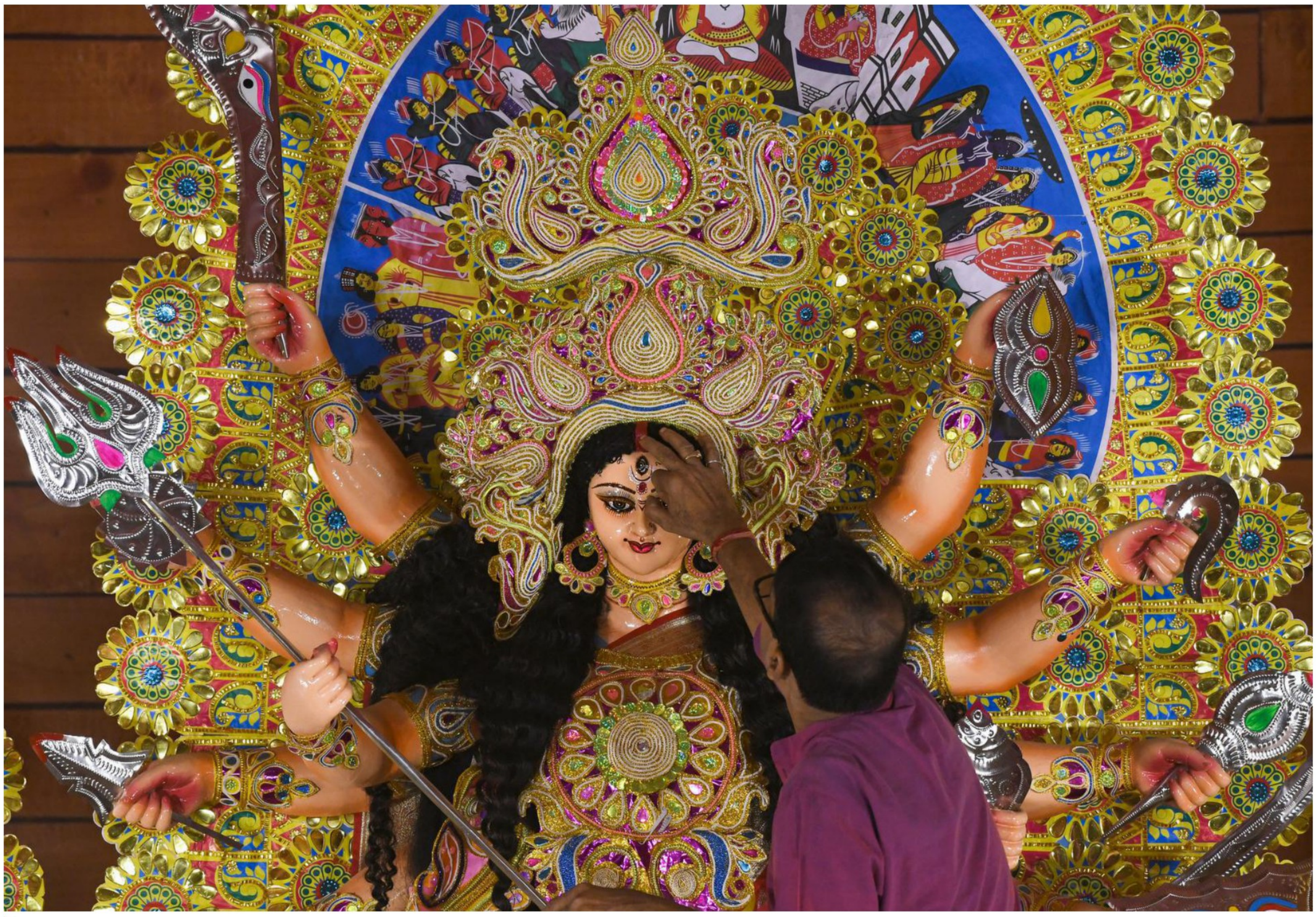

Sacred ritual: A preist applies *Shidur* (as pronounced in Bengali) during *aarti* at a *pandal* on the sixth day of Durga Puja in C.R. Park, New Delhi on Friday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

To the mountains: A *pandal* themed on the Kedarnath Dham in Bhopal. A.M. FARUQUI

Short break: A scene from the New Town Sharbojonin in east Kolkata, just before Durga Puja celebrations reach a peak. DEBASISH BHADURI

Prayer time: Devotees gathered at the Kalibari Temple *pandal* in Ahmedabad on Friday. VIJAY SONEJI

Intricate craft: A Durga idol at the Raj Danga Nobo Uday Sangha in South Kolkata. DEBASISH BHADURI

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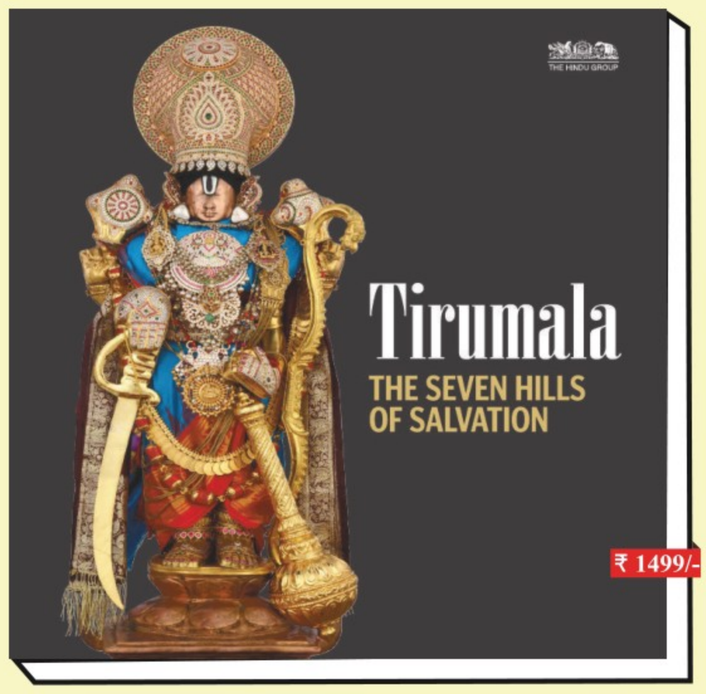

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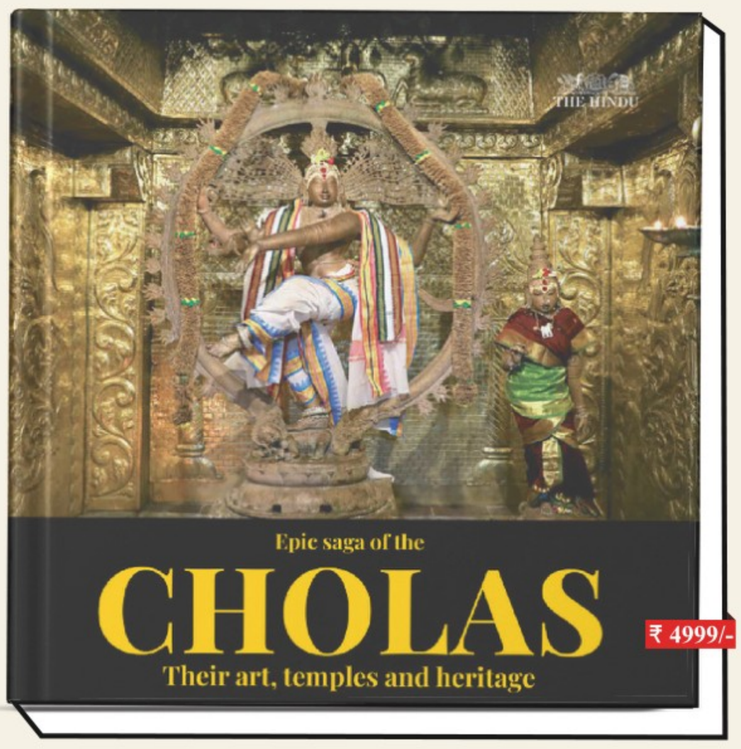

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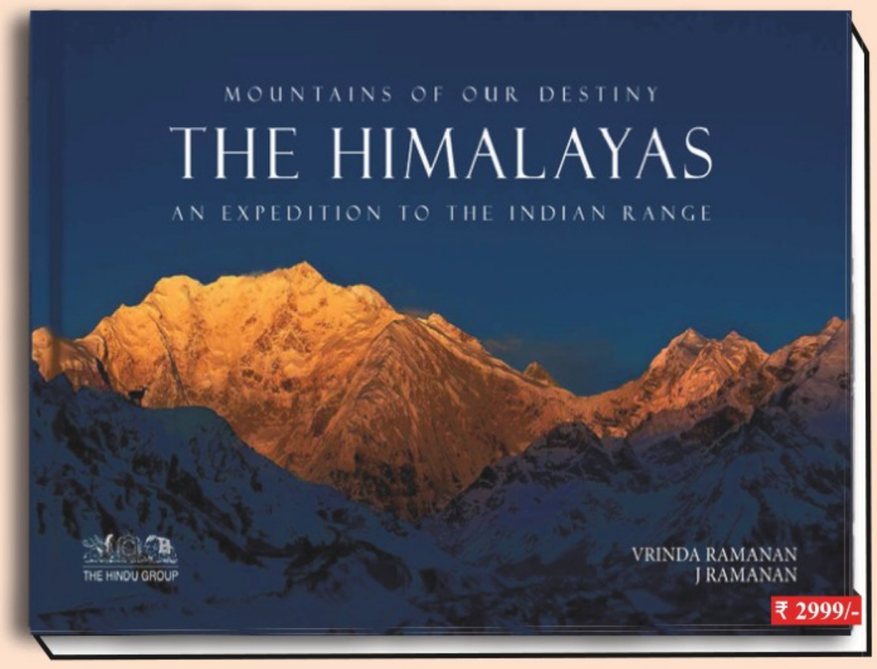

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No:BBMP/Comm/PSR(G)/1701/2023-24 **Date: 11.10.2023**

NOTIFICATION

FORM-1 (Under Sec 14B(4)(i))

In exercise of powers conferred under section 14-B (4) of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act 1961 the following Area mentioned in the schedule below is required by The **Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike** for **Widening of K.Channasandra Main Road from Channasandra Circle to Rampura Cross (Bhairathi-Avalahalli Road) for Width 24.00 Mtr as per RMP-2015.** It is hereby informed to the land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose to appear and submit their claims along with the copies of the relevant documents viz. (I) Sale/ partition/ other deeds of title, (ii) Up-to-date RTC's (iii) Mutation Copy (iv) Tax paid receipts (v) Conversion order of Non agriculture purpose (vi) Revenue sketch (vii) Akar Band etc., in person in the place within thirty days from the date of publication of this notification as indicated in the address below and state their respective interest in such land.

The place where land owners / interested persons have to appear and submit their claims	Name and address of the divisional / Sub divisional / branch offices	Date and time
The Deputy Commissioner (LAQ & TDR) Room No: 208, 2nd Floor, Annex Building-3, N.R. Sqaure, Bengaluru - 560002.	**Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure, K.R Puram Division, BBMP**	30 days from the date of Notification Time: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

The land owners / interested parties of the scheduled properties whose lands are to be acquired shall give the consent for Grant of Development Rights to the **Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.** The land owners shall receive twice the area of land surrendered in lieu of monetary compensation as DR (Notional land) and two time the building area surrendered as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed. The Notional land can be utilized by factorizing with the market value at the originating plot and receiving plot. The Notional land is eligible for FAR and can be used as additional built up area at the receiving plot as per the terms and conditions prescribed in the Benefit of Development Rights Rules, 2016.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Rights Certificates (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (LAQ & TDR), BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

SCHEDULE

"Acquisition of land required for Widening of K.Channasandra Main Road from Channasandra Circle to Rampura Cross (Bhairathi-Avalahalli Road) for Width 24.00 Mtr as per RMP-2015.

Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk: **Bengaluru East** Name of the Village: **K Channasandra Village**

Sl. No.	Sy. No/ Khatha No.	Type of Land: Vacant	Type of Land: Built up	Nature of Land: Agriculture	Nature of Land: Converted undeveloped	Nature of Land: Approved Layout / developed Land Building Site	Dimension of the Land/ Plot & Extent in Sq.M: Dimension	Dimension of the Land/ Plot & Extent in Sq.M: Extent	Boundaries of the Land / Plot: North	Boundaries of the Land / Plot: South	Boundaries of the Land / Plot: East	Boundaries of the Land / Plot: West	Building Details: Extent in Sq.M	Building Details: Type of Construction & No.of Floors	Building Details: Floor Area Ratio	Present Activity on Land/ Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, Factory, Apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guide -lines) value of the land Per Sq.M: Agriculture/B-Khatha	Market (guide -lines) value of the land Per Sq.M: Converted Undeveloped	Market (guide -lines) value of the land Per Sq.M: A-Khatha, Developed Site	Name and address of the owner of the plot/Land for Which DRC is to be issued/ Already Issues
1.	Sy No.64/2	Vacant		-			40.83 Sq.M		Sy No.64/4	Remaining Portion of Sy No.64/2	Sy No.64/3	Remaining Portion of Sy No.64/2	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Dyavappa and K Lokesh
2.	Sy No.64/3	Vacant / Building		-			64.05Sq.m		-	-	-	-	491.90 (B.V)	-	-	-	-	-	-	Commissioner, BBMP Vide: LF/DRC No. 86/2628, Date: 18.05.2013
3.	Sy No.64/3	Vacant / Building		-			74.28sq.m		Gramatana	Remaining Portion of Sy No.64/3	Sy No.64/7 & 64/16	Remaining Portion of Sy No.64/3	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Mekemuni -shamappa and others
4.	Sy No.64/4	Vacant		-			130.33 sq.m		Sy No.64/17	Sy No.64/2	Sy No.64/3	Remaining Portion of Sy No.64/4	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	K Lokesh
5.	Sy No.64/17	Vacant / Building		-			70.86 sq.m		Sy No.64/5 & Sy No.64/6	Sy No.64/4	Sy No.64/3	Remaining Portion of Sy No. 64/17	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Government Property
6.	Sy No.64/7	Vacant / Building		-			295.07 sq.m		Gramatana	Sy No.64/3	Sy No.64/8	Sy No.64/3	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	G.T Munishamappa
7.	Sy No.64/5	Vacant		-			101.17 sq.m		Gramatana	Sy No.64/17	Sy No.64/3	Sy No.64/6	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Govindappa
8.	Sy No.64/6	Vacant / Building		-			19.62 sq.m		Gramatana	Sy No.64/17	Sy No.64/5	Remaining Portion of Sy No.64/6	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Sripathi
9.	Gramatana	Vacant / Building		-			1162.25 sq.m		Sy No. 105, 106, 107, 108 & 111	Sy No.64	Gramatana	Gramatana	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Government Property
10.	Sy No.106	Vacant		-			703.50Sq.m		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Commissioner, BBMP Vide: LF/DRC No. 118/3433 Date: 05.01.2015
11.	Sy No.107/1	Vacant		-			607.02 sq.m		Kalkere Village Boundary	Sy No. 107/11	Sy No. 107/5, 107/7 & 107/9	Road	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Lakkappa
12.	Sy No.107/2	Vacant		-			817.65 Sq.m		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Commissioner, BBMP Vide: LF/DRC No. 110/3241, Date: 22.11.2014
13.	Sy No.107/2	Vacant		-			486.89 sq.m		Sy No.107/6	Sy No.106 & Sy No.107/4	Remaining Portion of Sy No. 107/2 & Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No. 107/2, Halla & Sy No.107/4	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Motappa and Others
14.	Sy No.107/3	Vacant		-			180.40 sq.m		Sy No.107/2	Gramatana	Sy No. 107/8	Remaining Portion of Sy No. 107/3 & Road	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Chikkapillappa
15.	Sy No.107/4	Vacant		-			172.62 sq.m		Sy No.107/2	Sy No.107/2	Remaining Portion of Sy No. 107/4 & Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No.107/4	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Snehalatha Kole
16.	Sy No.107/6	Vacant		-			235.37 sq.m		Kalkere Village Boundary	Sy No.107/2	Remaining Portion of Sy No. 107/6 & Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No.107/6	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Motappa
17.	Khatha No. 63/2/110/107/1	Vacant		-			102.00sq.m		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Commissioner, BBMP Vide: LF/DRC No. 111/3267, Date: 22.09.2014
18.	Sy No.107/8	Vacant / Building		-			821.22sq.m		Kalkere Village Boundary	Gramatana	Sy No. 107/1,11,14, 16, 17,20,23	Remaining Portion of Sy No.107/8	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Pillappa and Others
19.	Sy No.107/11	Vacant		-			556.44 sq.m		Sy No. 107/1	Sy No.107/14	Sy No. 107/10, 107/12, 107/13	Sy No.107/8	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	M/s. SDM Ventures and Nagaraj.B
20.	Sy No.107/14	Vacant		-			303.51 sq.m		Sy No. 107/11	Sy No.107/8	Sy No. 107/8, 107/13, 107/15	Road	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Nagaraj.B and M/s. SDM Ventures
21.	Sy No.107/16	Vacant		-			278.22 sq.m		Sy No.107/8	Sy No.107/17	Sy No. 107/8 & 107/15	Road	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	M/s. SDM Ventures and Nagaraj.B
22.	Sy No.107/17	Vacant		-			556.44 sq.m		Sy No. 107/16	Sy No. 107/20	Sy No. 107/18	Road	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Nagaraj.B and M/s. SDM Ventures
23.	Sy No.107/20	Vacant		-			480.56 sq.m		Sy No. 107/17	Sy No. 107/23	Sy No. 107/19, 107/21, 107/22	Road	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Nagaraj.B and M/s. SDM Ventures
24.	Sy No.107/23	Vacant		-			607.02 sq.m		Sy No. 107/20	Sy No. 107/08	Sy No. 107/22 & 107/24	Sy No.107/8 & Road	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Nagaraj.B and M/s. SDM Ventures

Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk: **Bengaluru East** Name of the Village: **Kalkere Village**

25.	Sy No.161/1	Vacant / Building		-			904.64 sq.m		Halla	Sy No.161/3	Remaining Portion of Sy No.161/1	Remaining Portion of Sy No.161/1	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	P. Revanna and Others
26.	Sy No.161/2	Vacant		-			101.62 sq.m		Sy No. 161/1	Sy No.161/3	Sy No. 161/1	Remaining Portion of Sy No.161/2	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	B.Anjanappa
27.	Sy No.161/1	Vacant		-			255.00Sq.m		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Commissioner, BBMP Vide: LF/DRC No. 111/3273, Date:23.09.2014
28.	Sy No.161/3	Vacant / Building		-			179.54 sq.m		Sy No.161/1 & 161/2	Maragondana Halli Lake	Remaining Portion of Sy No.161/3	Remaining Portion of Sy No.161/3	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Muniyamma
29.	Sy No.168	Vacant		-			340.00Sq.m		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Commissioner, BBMP Vide: LF/DRC No. 88/2683 Date:11.09.2013
30.	Sy No.168/2,3,4	Vacant		-			561.84Sq.m		Sy No.183/2	Sy No.167/2	Remaining Portion of Sy No.168/2,3,4	Remaining Portion of Sy No.168/2,3,4	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	1.Shankar Nayak 2.K.H Madhankumar 3.Lakkappa
31.	Sy No.183/1	Vacant		-			101.55 sq.m		Sy No. 183/3	Sy No.183/2	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/1	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/1	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	K.H Madhan kumar
32.	Sy No.164	Vacant		-			387.87 sq.m		Maragondana Halli Lake	Sy No.107	Remaining Portion of Sy No.164	Road & Sy No. 165/3	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	A.Ramesh
33.	Ssy No.165/3	Vacant		-			676.39 sq.m		Sy No.167	Sy No.107/6	Remaining Portion of Sy No.165/3 & Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No.165/3	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Chinnagopal

Cont. to Next Page

Karnataka government hikes dearness allowance to its employees, pensioners

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government on Saturday increased the dearness allowance (DA) to its employees in the 2018 revised pay scales to 38.75% of the basic pay, from the existing 35%, an increase of 3.75%. The hike will be effective from July 1, 2023. According to a government order, the government has equally increased the DA from the existing 35% to 38.75% of its pensioners, in addition to pensioners of aided educational institutions whose pension/family pension is paid out of the consolidated fund of the State.

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Sl. No.	Sy. No/ Kha tha No.	Type of Land		Nature of Land			Dimension of the Land/ Plot & Extent in Sq.M		Boundaries of the Land / Plot				Building Details			Present Activity on Land/ Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, Factory, Apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guide -lines) value of the land Per Sq.M			Name and address of the owner of the plot/Land for Which DRC is to be issued/ Already Issues
		Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted undeveloped	Approved Layout / developed Land Building Site	Dimension	Extent	North	South	East	West	Extent in Sq.M	Type of Construction & No.of Floors	Floor Area Ratio		Agriculture/B-Khatha	Converted Undeveloped	A-Khatha, Developed Site	
34.	Sy No.167	Vacant		-			425.36Sq.m		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Commissioner, BBMP Vide: LF/DRC No. 110/3244, Date:22.11.2014
35.	Sy No.167	Vacant		-			365.50Sq.m		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Commissioner, BBMP Vide: LF/DRC No 97/ 2920, Date:01.04.2014
36.	Sy No.167/1,3,4,5	Vacant		-			49.14sq.m		Sy No.167/2	Sy No.165	Remaining Portion of Sy No.167/1	Remaining Portion of Sy No.167/1	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Doddahanu -manthappa and others
37.	Sy No.167/2	Vacant		-			118.16 sq.m		Sy No.168	Sy No.167/1	Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No.167/2	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Shankar Nayak
38.	Sy No.183/2	Vacant		-			100.48 sq.m		Sy No. 183/1	Sy No.168/2	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/2	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/2	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Shankar Nayak
39.	Sy No.183/3	Vacant		-			105.86 sq.m		Sy No. 183/4	Sy No.183/1	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/3	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/3	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	Lakkappa
40.	Sy No.183/4	Vacant		-			246.66 sq.m		Halla & Sy No. 183/5	Sy No.183/3	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/4 & Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/4	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	K.S Likith
41.	Sy No.183/5	Vacant		-			199.80 sq.m		Sy No.184	Halla & Sy No. 183/4	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/5 & Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No.183/5	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	K.S Likith
42.	Sy No.184	Vacant		-			1674.22 sq.m		Maragondana Halli Lake	Sy No.183/5	Rroad	Remaining Portion of Sy No.184	-	-	-	-	7264.00	12712.00	30000.00	K.S Junjappa

Note: •The Market value of Land shall be subject to land conversion and development status to be decided at Form-III stage based on production of documents from the Land Owners.• The Building extent shall be verified at the time of Form-III Public Notice stage based on the Building Valuation and Benefits of Development Rights Rules, 2016. • The ownership of the land is published here based on available Revenue records, actual ownership to be decided at Form-III stage based on production of documents from the Land Owners.

Sd/- Chief Commissioner
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

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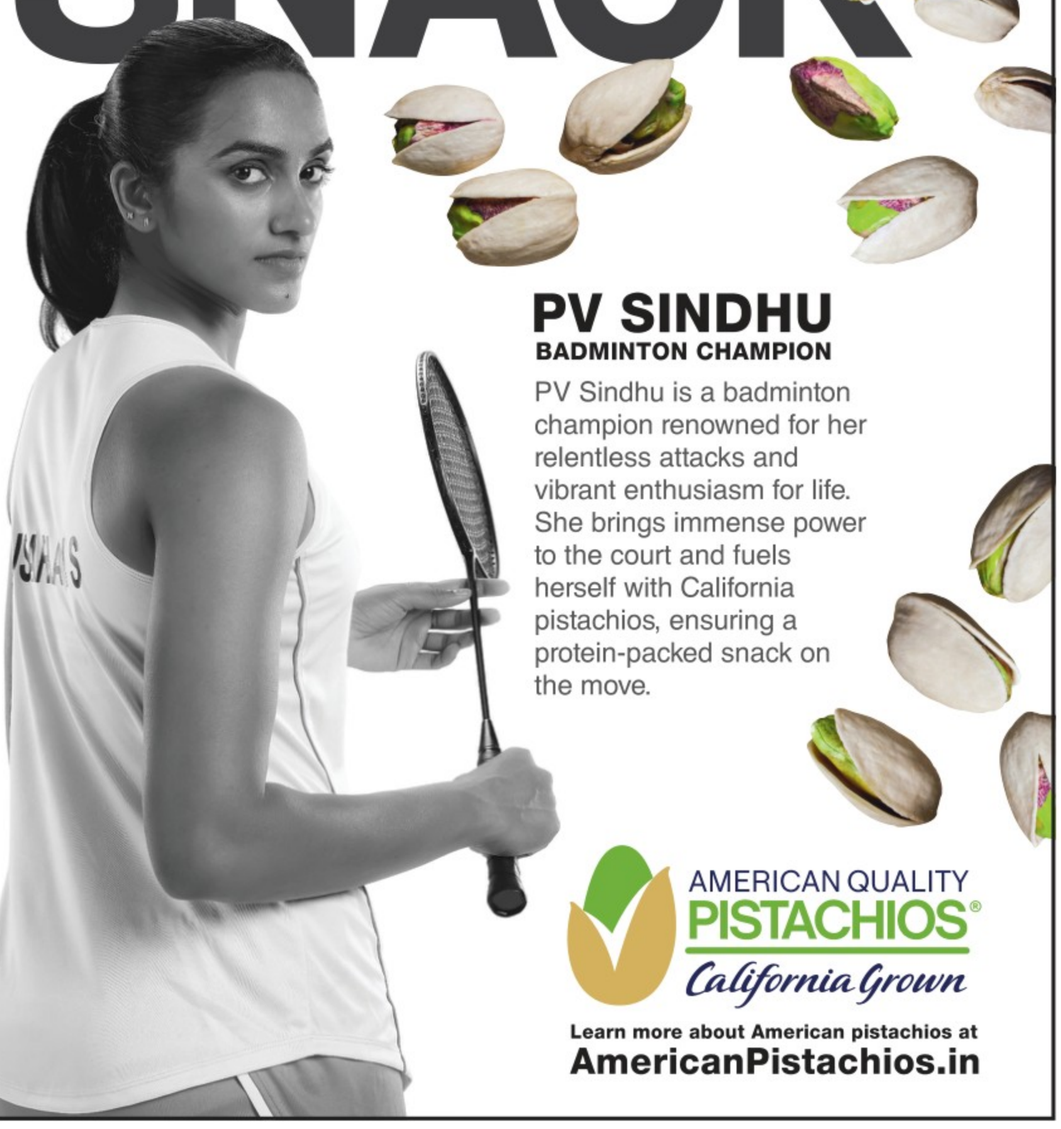

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Dash of *dandiya* and *garba* in Dasara celebrations

According to organisers in Bengaluru, every event draws at least a thousand persons from all walks of life.

Vishal V.P.
BENGALURU

The energetic rhythms of *dandiya* and *garba* have taken Bengaluru by storm, with a variety of clubs and dance academies hosting these festive gatherings at multiple locations across the city as a part of the Dasara-Navaratri celebrations.

Some dance instructors and event organisers are trying to move beyond the stereotype that *dandiya* and *garba* are confined to specific communities, while also trying to make the events more inclusive.

According to organisers, every event draws in at least a thousand persons from all walks of life.

Nimesh Chhag, a resident of Raja Rajeshwari Nagar, who organises events in his locality, goes beyond teaching these dances. He is on a mission to share his love for *dandiya* and *garba*.

"I used to organise grand *dandiya* nights right here in Raja Rajeshwari Nagar. But now, my focus has shifted towards not only imparting dance lessons, but also introducing a diverse group of students to these traditions. Surprisingly, over 150 of my students are not of Gujarati origin."

With more people showing interest, organisers and instructors are also getting more creative with their approach to these dances.

Manohar B.K. from Yelahanka, who has been an instructor of *dandiya* and *garba* for the past decade, consistently infuses a unique flavour to the festivities each year. "We spice things up with special *garba*, *dandiya*, folk dances, and even introduce nine colors of dance, where participants groove to nine distinct dance forms throughout Navaratri."

While newer methods of celebrations are gaining momentum, the popularity of the old dance events in Bengaluru continues to soar.

Sri Bangalore Vaishnav Navratri Utsav Mandal has been organising these events at various locations in Bengaluru, predominantly around Vasant Nagar, for almost a century. They are celebrating their 99th year this time.

Almost 95% hotel rooms booked in Mysuru as festivities enter final phase

A few are being kept aside for last-minute arrivals, or for regular customers

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

A large number of tourists visited the Mysuru palace on Saturday and their numbers are on the increase due to weekend holidays. M.A. SRIRAM

Tourist footfall in Mysuru and surrounding areas is registering an increase as Dasara enters the final phase. Only three days remain for the Jamboo Savari (procession of elephants) slated for October 24.

The hospitality sector in Mysuru has an inventory of over 10,000 rooms, almost 95% of which is booked. A few rooms are being held over for last-minute arrivals, or for regular clients.

It is customary for the tourist footfall to gain traction half-way through the 10-day festival, and it was no different this year as well. Bulk of the bookings are being done in online mode. The concept of walk-in customers, especially during Dasara, is obsolete given the rush and the limited availability of accommodation.

Online reservations

Though the hospitality sector has expanded in recent years, adding additional rooms with a slew of new properties coming up in Mysuru, the net increase is barely enough to keep pace with the rise in tourists, especially during the peak season. Dasara is one of such period.

"Hence, visitors to Mysuru do not take a chance during Dasara, and prefer advance reservation through the online mode," said C. Narayana Gowda of Mysuru Hotels' Association.

"The last four days of Dasara see a rise in the arrival of tourists. It is true this year as well. Up to 95% of the rooms are already booked," he added.

He informed that bulk of the visitors are from Bengaluru and different parts of Karnataka, followed by people from neighbouring Kerala.

There is a considerable dip in the number of tourists from Tamil Nadu this year, owing to tension over Cauvery river water.

South Western Railway (SWR) has introduced additional train services to and from Mysuru to cope with the holiday rush.

This includes special services during this 10-day period to Bengaluru, Chamarajanagar, Hubballi and Vijayapura. There will be special services to Bengaluru and Chamarajanagar on October 24 to enable visitors to reach their destinations after viewing the Jamboo Savari.

The online tickets for Jamboo Savari, or the Vijayadashmi procession, and the Dasara gold cards were sold out within minutes of being offered for sale, underlining the demand.

More than 10,000 tourists are visiting Mysuru palace daily, as indicated by the number of tickets sold. This does not take into account the huge crowd that congregates in the evening for cultural programmes in front of the durbar hall, as entry is free for all.

There is a spill-over effect on the surrounding areas as well.

Long weekend, thanks to Dasara, boosts tourism across Karnataka

Vishal V.P.
BENGALURU

Crowd at Kempe Gowda bus station on Saturday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

With an extended weekend thanks to the Dasara festival, many have made the best use of it with travel plans. As this is the second long weekend within a month, many are also preferring to have shorter vacations this time. Many hotels across the State have witnessed over 90% occupancy this weekend.

"This time, we are witnessing a significant surge in room occupancy across Bengaluru," said P.C. Rao, president, Bruhat Bengaluru Hoteliers' Association. "Hotels are nearly completely booked due to the surge in demand for accommodations. This pattern is widespread throughout Karnataka and is not exclusive to Bengaluru. The Dasara Festival is the main cause of this flood of tourists," he added.

Many youngsters are also using the long weekend to go on adventure excursions. Nagendra Nayak, who has organised a bike trip with his friends, said, "I'm organising a last-minute bike ride to Gokarna with several friends. It was an unexpected idea given the weekend and the additional holiday on Monday."

Surjith P.S, who just started a job in Bengaluru, said, "We cannot go too far because everyone just has a small window of time– two to three days. We have made the decision to travel to Virajapet in Kodagu, where one of my friends lives. We intend to go on a trekking expedition and see some of the nearby landmarks".

Others find that weekends are the ideal time to travel and experience diverse cultures, with many travelling to Mysuru for the Dasara festivities. Bengaluru resident Akash Biswa stated his eagerness to attend the Dasara festival in person. "I'm from West Bengal, but I have never had the opportunity to attend a live Dasara festival. Although I have viewed a lot of videos online and on TV, this time my family and I are travelling briefly to Mysuru to take part in the festival," he said.

However, some are also disappointed with the surge pricing of both buses and hotels owing to the higher demand. "Bus tickets to Goa cost around ₹6,000 for two persons and the hotel prices are almost double everywhere. Hence, I dropped my travel plans," said Samiksha N., an engineer from Basavanagudi.

Eight institutions get AICTE approval to offer evening engineering courses

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has approved eight technical institutions to offer evening Engineering courses with 570 seats for working professionals in Karnataka. After a demand from working professionals from four years, the AICTE has approved 137 technical institutions to offer evening courses in the country.

Among the eight approved in the State, all institutions are private engineering colleges with 30 seating capacity in each stream, and the AICTE has ordered to complete the admissions by October 30.

Earlier, there were 12 evening engineering colleges in the State. However, the AICTE withdrew the courses in 2019-20.

After the demand from working professionals, the AICTE has decided to re-introduce the evening Engineering courses from this academic year and the State government has also given its nod.

An evening Engineering course aspirant Chetan, from Kunigal, said, "I have completed a three-year diploma course. I am working as a quality engineer in a private firm in Bengaluru. Earlier, the closure of evening engineering colleges was a major setback for working professionals. Finally, the AICTE has decided to re-introduce the course. Initially, no engineering colleges came forward to start the courses. So, we demanded the State government start the engineering courses in the government engineering colleges. Now, eight private engineering colleges have got permission from the AICTE and it will helpful to thousands of working professionals to pursue their higher education."

Institutions

The institutions that got approval are: Sri Vidya Institute of Technology, Bengaluru for Computer Science and Engineering, Electronics and Telecommunication, Mechanical Engineering; Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Bengaluru for Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering; Acharya Institute of Technology, Bengaluru for Computer Science and Engineering, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Mechanical Engineering; JSS Academy of Technical Education, Bengaluru for Computer Science and Engineering, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning; HKBK College of Engineering, Bengaluru for Electronics and Communication Engineering; Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering, Mysuru for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Electronics and Communication, Mechanical Engineering; Tontadarya College of engineering, Gadag for Electronics and Communication, Mechanical Engineering; Siddaganga Institute of Technology, Tumakuru for Electronics and Communication, Mechanical Engineering.

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, OCT. 22		
RISE	06:11	SET 17:57
RISE	13:00	SET 00:00
MONDAY, OCT. 23		
RISE	06:11	SET 17:57
RISE	13:53	SET 00:38
TUESDAY, OCT. 24		
RISE	06:11	SET 17:56
RISE	14:40	SET 01:40

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	23
Mysuru	33	24
Bengaluru	29	19

Bengaluru Today
30°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night also will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower m occur.

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THE HINDU
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'Fill vacancies in Kalyana Karnataka and the backlog posts in Higher Education Dept.'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has instructed officials of the Finance, the Higher and Technical Education Departments to fill Kalyana Karnataka vacancies and other backlog posts which have been pending for many years.

The Chief Minister, who chaired a progress review meeting of the Higher Education Department at his home office 'Krishna' on Saturday, said, "Recruitment of teaching staff is very necessary to maintain the quality of the education sector. On priority basis, the officials should identify the vacant posts in the department and take steps to fill them."

After the meeting, addressing the media, M.C. Sudhakar, Minister for Higher and Technical Education, said, "The Chief Minister has given consent to fill around 3,321 Kalyana Karnataka and backlog posts immediately and we will start the recruitment process soon."

"Of 16,455 sanctioned teaching posts in the collegiate and technical education departments, around 6,099 posts are remaining vacant. Among 19,698 sanctioned non-teaching posts, there are around 13,558 posts vacant posts. We also discussed the various posts vacant in the universities," he explained.

The State government has decided to get low-interest loan from the World Bank for the development of 72 government first grade, government polytechnics, and government engineering colleges in the State.

"We are planning to get ₹ 1,540 crore low-interest loan from the World Bank to develop the government colleges. According to the proposed project, 31 government first grade colleges will be developed with ₹620 crore and 10 government engineering colleges will be developed with ₹300 crore," Dr. Sudhakar added.

The issue of remuneration of guest faculty members working in the various government degree and engineering colleges in the State was also discussed in the meeting. Now, they get remuneration for seven months.

Jharkhand Education Project Council, JEPC
JSCA Stadium Road, Sector-3, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
Phone – 0651-2444501/502, email – jepcranchi1@gmail.com

Letter Ref.No:JEPC/ICT/52/54/2023/4125 **Dated: 19/10/2023**

E-Procurement Notice

JEPC invites separate technical & financial bids through GeM Portal from eligible and interested bidders for establishment of ICT Lab which includes Supply, Installation and maintenance of Hardware, Software & Connected accessories and for providing Computer Education Services (manpower etc.) in the selected schools and Smart Class in selected Middle Schools in two Zones. Interested and eligible bidders can see the detailed tender document http://gem.gov.in with GeM Bid Reference number – GEM/2023/B/4112438 for Zone -1 and GEM/2023/B/4112731 for Zone -2. Interested and eligible bidders are requested to submit their proposal latest by **22.11.2023 at 03:00 PM** through website http://gem.gov.in only. A Pre-Bid meeting in this regard is scheduled on **31.10.2023 at 12:30 PM** at our above mentioned office.

By order of State Project Director, JEPC.

Sd/-
(Jayant Kumar Mishra)
Administrative Officer

PR 309661 School Education and Literacy(23-24).D

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public are hereby notified that, my client Smt.Jayanthi Jonathan W/o.Sri.Jonathan Nicholas , has lost Original of (1) Sale deed dated 16.06.2003, No.5260/2003-04 (2) Sale deed No.KRI-1-23636/2004-05, dated 01.12.2004, both registered at the Office of the Sub-registrar, K.R.Puram, Bangalore and 3) Sale deed dated 22.09.1983, No.4690/1983-84, of Volume 2034, at Pages 194 to 197, registered at the Office of the Sub-registrar, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore pertaining to Site No.11, Katha No.36/1/11, situated at Kowdenahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 35.5 Feet in all measuring 1065 Sq.Ft. In this regard e-lost report was filed on 14.10.2023, vide No. 0766417/2023, with Bangalore City, Police. If any person/s finds the said documents kindly inform the above stated person or address mentioned below. If any person/s misuses the said document, the same is not binding on our client and they shall do so at their own risk.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-43. M: 8951856652, 9845846428

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
Tender Notice for Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract

Sr. No. (1) : E-Tender No. 133A-ST-Tender-2023, Dated. 18.10.2023

Work :Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year of Integrated Security system at Bilaspur Railway Station of South East Central Railway consisting of IP based video Surveillance System, Network able X-ray Baggage Scanner System."

Tender Value : ₹ **18,00,000/-** (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs Only). **EMD :** ₹ **36,000/-** (Rupees Thirty Six Thousand Only). **Submission of Tender :** Upto **15:00** hrs. on **10.11.2023**.

The complete information of above e-tender notice is available over website **http://www.ireps.gov.in**. Bids other than e-bids shall not be accepted against above tender.

Divl. Sig. & Tele. Engineer
CPR/10/272 S.E.C. Railway, Bilaspur.
South East Central Railway @secrail

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Central Workshops, Golden Rock, Tiruchirappalli-620 004 - Extra Division

The Chief Workshop Manager, Central workshops, Golden Rock, Southern Railway, Tiruchirappalli- 620 004 for and on behalf of President of India Invites ONLINE Tenders for the following work as per tender notice given in our e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in**

(1) Name of work	**Supply and Installation of Thermal Insulation for 320 BVCM Wagons.**
E-Tender No.	No. CW/WP/8150- WC/Thermal Insulation/ BVCM/320/OT dated 19.10.2023
Approximate Value of work	₹92,85,120/- Inclusive of GST @ 18%
Cost of Tender Form	₹5,000/-
Bid Security Amount	₹1,85,700/-
Completion period	24 Months
Tender Closing date and time	**10/11/2023 at 12:00 Hrs.**
(2) Name of work	**Underframe assembly and welding of 160 BVCM wagons**
E-Tender No.	**CW/WP/8150-WC/UF Assy & Weld/BVCM/160/OT Dated 19.10.2023**
Approximate Value of work	₹61,95,182.40 Inclusive of GST @ 18%
Cost of Tender Form	₹5,000/-
Bid Security Amount	₹1,23,900/-
Completion period	24 Months
Tender Closing date and time	**10/11/2023 at 12:00 Hrs.**

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its Owners namely, Mr.Rizwan S/o Mr.Ameer Jan and Mrs.Rizwana W/o Mr.Rizwan, both are residing at No.114, 6th Cross, 9th Main, Suvarna Badavane, Nagarabhavi 1st Stage, 3rd Block, Nayandanahalli Ring Road, Bengaluru – 560072.

Apart from the said Owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule Property by the aforesaid Owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of vacant undeveloped industrial land bearing Village Panchayathi Khatha No.87/1, PID No.152900402000420676 (Part of Sy.No.16/1, duly converted for non-agricultural industrial purposes, vide an Official Memorandum bearing No.386192 dated 07/07/2022, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Ramanagara District), measuring 1424.389 Sq.mtrs. or 15,332 Sq.ft., situated at Bheemenahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and bounded on:

East by : Property bearing Sy.No.16/2,
West by : 30 Feet Road,
North by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.16/1, and
South by : 20 Feet Road.

Sd/- S.F. Goutam Chand
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public are hereby notified that, our clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its Owner **SRI. M. VENKATESH** S/o Sri.A.A.Muniswamy, residing in the Schedule Property. The Owner represents that, he had misplaced/lost the original title deeds and documents of the Schedule Property i.e., (i) Allotment letter bearing No.B7 2380/1973-74 dated 11/04/1973, issued by CITB to Smt.Lakshmi W/o Sri.Ramachandra (Ramachandra Naidu); (ii)Possession Memo bearing PR No.141/1974-75 dated 30/08/1974 issued by CITB to Smt.Lakshmi W/o Sri.Ramachandra (Ramachandra Naidu); (iii) Sale Deed dated 18/04/1986 executed by Smt.Lakshmi in favour of Sri.S.Krishnaswamy S/o late Sri.S.Sitaram, registered as document No.147/1986-87, in Book-1, Volume-1012 at pages 37 to 42, in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar, Bangalore City; (iv) General Power of Attorney dated 07/09/1987 executed by Sri.S.K.Ganesh Malali S/o late Sri.K.Srishnaswamy in favour of his brother Sri.S.K.Kumar Malali and (v) General Power of Attorney dated 07/09/1987 executed by Smt.Lakshmi Jayaram D/o late Sri.K.Srishnaswamy, W/o Sri.Jarayam in favour of her mother Smt.Lalitha Krishnaswamy and to that effect, the Owner has lodged a police complaint on 21/10/2023 vide Lost Report No.0776042/2023, with the Bengaluru City Police. Further, the Owner represents that he has not deposited or otherwise handed over the said original deeds and documents to any person/s or Bank/s or institution/s and that the Owner has a freehold subsisting marketable title to the Schedule Property.

Apart from the said Owner, if any person has any manner of claim, right, title, interest or demand of any nature in or over the Schedule Property or any person/s having custody of the said original deeds and documents, they are hereby called upon to file their objections along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying, with the undersigned, within **5 (Five) days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on our clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing **Municipal No.2380 (CITB/BDA site No.2380), PID No.56-146-2380,** measuring East to West 50ft and North to South 30ft, in all measuring 1500 Sq.ft, with a house building thereon having 1500 Sq.ft of built up area, situated at **19th Cross, 7th Main Road, BSK 2nd Stage,** Bengaluru-560070, within the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Ward No.166-Karisandra and bounded as follows:

East by : Road
West by : Property bearing No.2407
North by : Property bearing No.2379
South by : Property bearing No.2381

Sd/- BAYYA REDDY. M
For ISHA LAW CHAMBERS LLP
Advocates & Solicitors
No.101, 2nd Floor, Sri Manjunatha Complex,
22nd Main Road, BSK 2nd Stage, Opp : Banashankari
BDA Complex, Bengaluru-560070

Deficient monsoon hits power generation at hydel plants

Water in three major hydel reservoirs enough to generate 3,997 MU; KPCL to conserve water for generation in summer

Sathish G.T.
SHIVAMOGGA

A weak southwest monsoon has led to low water levels in reservoirs this year, in turn impacting power generation in hydel dams.

The cumulative water storage in three major hydel dams is only 43.75% of their capacity, forcing Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) to go for thermal energy and conserve the available water for the coming summer. In 2022, the State received good rains. During the corresponding period last year, the three major hydel reservoirs recorded a cumulative storage of 77.88%.

A file photo of Supa dam in Joida taluk of Uttara Kannada district.

Data on major hydel power dams in Karnataka (2022 figures in brackets)

	Linganamakki	Supa	Mani
Full reservoir level	1,819 ft	564 m	594.36 m
Present level	1,786.75 ft (1,814ft)	545.05 m (553.85 m)	580.96 m (589.56 m)
Gross capacity	156 tmcft	147.53 tmcft	33.96 tmcft
Present capacity	66.84 tmcft/44.02% (135.34 tmcft/89.19%)	75.93 tmcft/52.25% (104.99 tmcft/72.25%)	10.89 tmcft/34.98% (22.48 tmcft/72.22%)
Energy content	2,006 million units (4,065 MU)	1,651 MU (2,283 MU)	340 MU (703 MU)

Storage

Linganamakki, Supa, and Mani are the three major hydel reservoirs for power production in Karnataka. As on October 21, the total storage available was sufficient to generate 3,997 MU (million units) of power. On this day last year, there was enough water to generate 7,050 MU. There have been complaints of frequent power cuts across Karnataka. Farmers have hit the streets demanding power supply, as they are finding it difficult to safeguard standing crops due to scanty rainfall. Due to the drought, the demand for power has increased.

At the same time, power generation has suffered. As of now, the demand is around 15,000 MW to 16,000 MW, up from 9,000 MW to 10,000 MW last year. The Sharavathi Valley Project, which has four power-generating stations with a total capacity of 1,469 MW, is one of the major sources of electricity for Karnataka. As on October 21, the water in the dam was only 66.8 tmcft, which is 44.02% of the total capacity. With the available storage, 2,006 MU can be generated.

Outlook for 150 days

"We can generate power approximately for next 150 days with the available storage," said Uday Nayak, Chief Engineer (Operation and Maintenance), KPCL.

Last year on this day, there was sufficient storage to generate 4,065 MU. The water level in the dam reached its maximum level four times last year. The previous occasion it was full was in 2019-20.

The water storage in Supa reservoir (Kali Valley Project) and Mani reservoir (Varahi Valley Project) has also come down.

With the available storage, only 1,651 MU can be generated in Supa dam. Last year, the reservoir was filled to 72.25% of capacity, and the storage was sufficient to generate 2,283 MU.

In Mani, the water level is only 34.98% of the reservoir's capacity. The present storage is sufficient to generate 340 MU. Last year, this time, the water level was 72.22% of the capacity, and 703 MU could be generated with the available storage.

Conserving water

The KPCL has decided to conserve water in the reservoirs for generation in summer.

M.C. Divakar, Director (Technical) of the KPCL, told *The Hindu*, "Considering the water level in the reservoirs, the generation was being managed, keeping in mind demand in the coming days. We are going for thermal energy rather than hydel, as of now. We are conserving water for the coming summer, which is the time when students face examinations."

State govt. is creating artificial power shortage, alleges Kumaraswamy

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Janata Dal (S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy at a press meet in Bengaluru on Saturday.

The former Chief Minister and new *ad hoc* State president of the JD(S) H.D. Kumaraswamy on Saturday alleged that although there is ample scope for power generation from various sources in the State, the Congress government was creating an "artificial shortage" to purchase power from private companies.

Addressing presspersons here, Mr. Kumaraswamy alleged that the State government had been "trying to collect commission by purchasing electricity from private companies to fund the elections of five State Assmblies and the Lok Sabha."

'Didn't take precaution'

"It is true that hydropower generation has decreased due to lack of rainfall in the State. However, sufficient power can be generated from other sources. If the government had taken precautions from the time it came to power, it could have stockpiled enough coal. However, the government neglected power generation with the malicious intention of getting commission through power purchases from private companies. The government has committed to provide funds to its high command and is doing so accordingly," he alleged.

"Even in the current drought situation, 16,867.63 megawatts of electricity can be generated in the State. As the water storage in reservoirs is not as expected, they can generate at least half of the usual quantity of hydroelectricity. The government, however, is not making any effort to generate power as it is only interested in its guarantee schemes," he alleged. "Their greed of mobilising commission amount through power purchase is not letting them focus on power generation," he alleged.

Stating that the Congress is looking at expanding the "guarantee" model in the whole country, Mr. Kumaraswamy said other States would also face a similar situation in the coming days.

"The Chief Minister, who recently held a meeting pertaining to the Energy Department, said there is a shortfall of 15,000 megawatts in the State and power will be purchased to overcome the shortage. He has blamed the previous government for the shortfall. What did this government do in the last five months?" Mr. Kumaraswamy asked.

CM hits back

Reacting to allegations by Mr. Kumaraswamy that the government was creating an "artificial power shortage" and using it as an excuse to buy power from private players and get kickbacks in the process, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in a message on X (formerly Twitter) listed measures taken by the government to tide over the situation. He said that deficient rainfall had led to hydel power shortage, while demand had surged and the government had put in place a series of measures, including buying power from other States, restarting thermal plants, and augmenting renewable energy generation.

Bommai recovering after cardiac surgery

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah called on the former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai at a private hospital in Bengaluru.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The former Chief Minister Basvaraj Bommai has undergone coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) surgery at a private hospital in the city and is recovering.. He is likely to be discharged from the hospital by Monday.

A few preliminary investigations that Mr. Bommai underwent at Fortis Hospital on Bannerghatta Road on October 15 raised suspicion of multiple blockages in his heart. Following an angiogram, severe and diffuse blockages were discovered in all three coronary arteries. A team of doctors led by Vivek Jawali, chairman of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Sciences at the hospital, conducted a CABG surgery involving the placement of five grafts on the beating heart, addressing all obstructed coronary arteries.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief MInister D.K. Shivakumar, and Home Minister G. Parameshwara called on Mr. Bommai in the hospital and wished him speedy recovery.

DKS asks leaders to raise party issues with CM or him and not speak to media

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Saturday took exception to some of the party leaders' public statements on internal matters of the party and asked them not to go before the media on party matters.

Mr. Shivakumar told presspersons here that leaders and Ministers should refrain from discussing in public internal matters of the party and they should instead discuss issues with him or with the Chief Minister. "None should air their views in public before the media under any circumstances,'' the KPCC chief warned.

The KPCC president's reaction comes a day after three-time MLA Ashok Pattan stated that the State Cabinet reshuffle would be taken up in two-and-a-half-years and the new faces would be inducted into the Ministry. Mr. Pattan also stated that AICC general secretary in charge of the State Randeep Singh Surjewala and senior leaders had assured him that he would be inducted into the Cabinet based on seniority and loyalty to the party.

About a month back, Minister for Cooperation Rajanna had spoken about the creation of three more posts of Deputy Chief Minister.

After the Congress formed the government, Ministers M.B. Patil and H.C. Mahadevappa spoke to the media saying that Mr. Siddaramaiah would continue in the post for a full term, causing embarrassment to the party then.

On Mr. Pattan's statement, Mr. Shivakumar denied discussions taking place in the party on Cabinet reshuffle.

In a reaction to Minister Satish Jarkiholi's statement that he (Mr. Shivakumar) alone was not responsible for the Congress victory in the Assembly polls, the KPCC chief played it down and said he had not said he was solely responsible for the party's victory. "Party leaders, workers, farmers, and people living in villages contributed to the formation of the Congress government," the KPCC chief said.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

TENTH ANNIVERSARY

SHRI. R. CHAKRAPANI
29.11.1928 22.10.2013

We were blessed by your guidance and miss you everyday

Family and Staff of
R. CHAKRAPANI & SONS

TIRUPPUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Notice for Inviting E-Tender
(Roc.No. E1 / 4897 / 2023, Date : 19.10.2023)

E-Tenders are invited from the eligible bidders for Providing SCADA system for Raw Water Intake Pump House and feeder Main Tapping points 5 Nos & 70 Nos OHT inlet supply in Tiruppur Corporation under in **Capital Grant Fund 2023-24.**

1. Total Project cost is **Rs.11.33 Crores.**
2. The details of the tender shall be obtained from web portal **https://tntenders.gov.in**
3. The tender documents shall be downloaded from **20.10.2023** to **30.11.2023** through the portal **https://tntenders.gov.in**
4. Pre Bid Meeting will be on **03.11.2023** at **11.00 AM** by the Commissioner, Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation, Municipal Office Road, Tiruppur – 641 604.
5. The Last date for downloading the tender document and the last date for uploading / submission of filled up tender document is upto **3.00 PM** on **30.11.2023.**
6. The received tenders will be opened at **3.30 PM** on **30.11.2023** at the Office of Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation, Municipal Office Road, Tiruppur – 641 604
7. The value of each works and the details of Earnest Money Deposit and the Eligibility of bidders are given in the concern work tender document

DIPR/ 5714 /TENDER/2023

Commissioner,
Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation

ESI Hospital
Office of The Medical Superintendent,
Indiranagar, Bengaluru 560008

ENQUIRY NO. ESIH/INR/23/2023-2024 **Date : 19.10.2023**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender is invited for Supply of Diet Items Including Bread and Eggs for ESI Hospital, Indiranagar for One Year (01-12-2023 to 30-11-2024).

1) Last date & time for receipt of tender/Tender submission : 18/11/2023, 04:00 pm. 2) Date & time for opening of tender Technical Bid : 23/11/2023, 11.30 am. 3) Address of opening of Tender : The Medical Superintendent, ESI Hospital, Indiranagar, Bengaluru - 560008. 4) Date fixed for Sample Submission: Will be intimated after the Opening of Cover-I.

The tenderers should submit the tenders through E-procurement only website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ Helpdesk: 080-25501216/227.

For further Information please contact office of the under signed.

DIPR/CP/1812/AKAR/2023-24

Sd/- Medical Superintendent,
ESI Hospital, Indiranagar, Bengaluru-08

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Under Taking)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL.NRBC.Divn.No.6,
Chikkahonnakuni,Tq: Devadurga. Dist: Raichur-584 111. KARNATAKA

No. KBJNL/NRBC/D-6/ PB-3/NRBC Extn /TND//2023-24/399 DATED: 21-10-2023.

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(ONLY THROUGH ELECTRONIC TENDER SYSTEM)
(TWO COVER SYSTEM)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bengaluru/Almatti, the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, NRBC Division No-6, Chikkahonnakuni invites the percentage tenders in KW-4 two cover systems from the eligible KPWD Class-1 contractors for work mentioned in the table below. The tenderers are required to submit two separate covers, one containing details of EMD and the particulars under instructions to the tenderers vide clause 1.1 and the other containing financial details of tender as per clauses 1.20 containing the price bid which will be opened only if the tenderer is found qualified to execute the tendered work.

(The blank tenders can be obtained through website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and submitted through electronic tender box)

1) **Indent No:** 24279, **Name of work:** Construction of RCC trough aqueduct from ch:153.040 km to 153.840 km of NRBC Extn (Instead of canal embankment in NA lands) (INDENT NO.24279), **Estimated cost put to Tender with GST (Rs. in Lakhs):** 1639.82, EMD (Rs. in Lakhs):16.40, **Period of completion:** 15 months

The details of events for the above works are mentioned as below:-

1) The Contractors can have access to e-tendering documents from 30/10/2023 to 28/11/2023 from 10.00Am to 5.00Pm. 2) A pre-bid meeting will be conducted on 06/11/2023at 11.30 AM at the o/o the Executive Engineer, KBJNL,NRBC Division No.6 Chikkahonnakuni, Tq: Devadurga, Dist: Raichur. 3) Last Date of Receipt of the above Tenders is 28/11/2023up to 5.00PM. 4)Technical Bid cover-1 will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Division No.6, Chikkahonakuni on 29/11/2023 @ 5.30 PM. 5) Financial Bid cover-2 will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Division No. 6 Chikkahonakuni on 02/12/2023 @ 11.00 AM (if possible).

For any information or clarification regarding conditions for the tenders please Contact www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or office of the under signed during office hours on working days.

DIP/RCR/186/KSMC&A/Job No.183/2023-24

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, NRBC, Division No.6,
CHIKKAHONNAKUNI-584111.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
DIRECTORATE FOR WELFARE OF THE DIFFERENTLY ABLED
5, LADY WILLINGDON COLLEGE CAMPUS, KAMARAJAR SALAI, CHENNAI-600 005.

Roc.No.7416 /A&A/RIGHTS/2023 **TENDER NOTICE** **Dated: 16.10.2023**

Expression of Interest (EOI) applications are invited from Potential institutions for Community service providers (CSP) to deliver Community based rehabilitation services in Chennai, Tenkasi, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri & Tiruchirappalli districts through e-procurement portal. The complete details are available on the department **website -www.scd.tn.gov.in** as well as on the tender **website-tntenders.gov.in.**

EOI Applications are requested to be uploaded through e-procurement portal at **http://tntenders.gov.in**

Project Director – TN RIGHTS / Director for welfare the Differently Abled, Chennai-600 005 reserves the right to accept or reject the tenders without assigning any reason.

DIPR/ 5715 /TENDER/2023

Project Director – RIGHTS /
Director for Welfare of the Differently Abled

Government of Karnataka
(KARNATAKA RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DEPARTMENT)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION, DIVISION KALABURGI-585105

No:EE/RDW&S/Dvn/Tech/2022-23/1199 Dated : 20-10-2023

KPPP SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two cover)

The Executive Engineer Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, Kalaburagi on behalf of Honorable Governor, Karnataka here by invites separate Technical & Financial bid tender for WPP works from eligible manufactured/Delears detailed as below

The Tender Document with detailed conditions can be obtained through web site https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ and should be submitted through E-procurment system only 1) Name of work: **Chittapur Taluka-01(Indent No 6640) Jewargi Taluka-01(Indent No 6639)**, 2) Head of A/C: SBM, 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Class- III & above, 4) Tender Amount : Min 85,00,000/- Max 87,00,000/-, 5) Date of Commencement of downloading of Bidding document: 21-10-2023 11:00am, 6) Cost of tender form and EMD: As per E-portal, 7) Last Date to submit bids on e-portal: 31-10-2023 4.00pm, 8) Opening of Techincal Bid: 02-11-2023 11.00am, 9) Opening of Financial Bid : 04-11-2023 11:00am, 10) Address for any clarification reg.tender : Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, PRE division 1st floor Kusanoor road Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/399/KSMC&A/2023-24

Sd/- Executive Engineer
RDW&S Division, Kalaburagi

Government Of Karnataka
Deputy Commissioner Office, Koppal
District Urban Development Cell
District: Koppal State: Karnataka
Office Ph : 08539-221895 Fax No : 08539-221235
e-mail : ka.koppal.dudc@gmail.com

ಕಂ.ಸಂ:22993/ಕೆಪಿಡಿಯುಡಿಸಿ–11020/21/2019/ಪಿಡಿ(ಡಿಯುಡಿಸಿ)/5567
ದಿನಾಂಕ :20–10–2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION:: (E-Procurement)

The Project Director, District Urban Development Cell Koppal, Koppal District, invites tenders from Contractors who are eligible for, Providing Catering Services for indira canteen in Urban local Bodies in Koppal District of Karnataka State. Eligible contractors apply the bid listed in Karnataka kppp Portal www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Brief Description: Koppal District CMC Koppal-1, CMC Gangavati-1 TP Yelburga-1 Indent No: DMA/2023-24/SE1195. **Approximate value of work (Rs. In Lakhs):** 272.00. **EMD (in Lakhs):** 4.08. **Period of Completion (Months):** 12

Available of Tender Forms (Through Online): **19-10-2023 Morning 10.00 am.** Last Date for Submission of Tender: **18-11-2023 Evening 4:30 pm.** Date of Technical Bid opening: **20-11-2023 3:30 pm**

Sd/-Project Director, DUDC Koppal District,Koppal.

DIPR/Koppal/202/KSMCA/2023-24

I never said CPI(M) backed BJP-JD(S) tie-up: Deve Gowda

I only said that my party unit in Kerala is getting along with the Left government even after our tie-up with the BJP, unlike my party units outside Karnataka, says Janata Dal(S) supremo

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Clarifying that he never said that the ruling Left party in Kerala supported the BJP-JD(S) alliance, Janata Dal (Secular) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda on Saturday said there is "some confusion in the CPI(M) regarding my statement".

"My Communist friends do not seem to have followed what I said nor the context in which I said. I never said the CPM in Kerala supports the BJP-JD(S) alliance," Mr. Gowda said on X. "I only said that my party unit in Kerala is getting along with the LDF government there, as things within my party units outside Karnataka remain unresolved after our alliance with the BJP. I wish CPI(M) leaders had chosen their words better or had sought clarification," he said. The JD(S) is a constituent of the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) in Kerala.

H.D. Deve Gowda

On Thursday, while removing JD(S) Karnataka unit president C.M. Ibrahim – for raising a banner of revolt against the leadership for tying up with the BJP – Mr. Gowda said: "Kerala's Left government's Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has given full concurrence to move forward in Karnataka with the BJP to save the party."

Mr. Vijayan had flatly denied Mr. Gowda's claim.

Former Chief Minister H. D. Kumaraswamy, now the ad hoc State president of the JD(S), said his party's Kerala unit continues to be part of the LDF government. "The situation in Kerala is different from that in Karnataka. The issue we have is confined to our party in Karnataka. It is not something we wish to discuss with the Kerala Chief Minister," he said.

(With PTI inputs)

Telangana election: BJP to field Eatala against CM in Gajwel

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) election campaign committee chairman Eatala Rajender is likely to take on BRS president and Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao from Gajwel constituency and the party is said to have brought back and renominated suspended Goshamahal MLA T. Raja Singh.

Sources said the first list of 55 BJP candidates, believed to be cleared by its central election committee on Saturday, has three MPs – Bandi Sanjay (Karimnagar), Dharmapuri Sanjay (Korutla) and Soyam Bapu Rao (Boath ST). Party's national vice-president D. K. Aruna is set to contest from Gadwal. Former MP A.P. Jithender Reddy will contest from Mahabubnagar. Dubbak MLA Raghunandan has been renominated and the State unit chief and Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy will not contest from Amberpet as speculated earlier.

The 119-member State Assembly is scheduled to go to the polls on November 30 and the counting of votes will be taken up on December 3.

Duryodhana, Dussasana revered in these temples

Navamy Sudhish
KOLLAM

In the place of sanctum sanctorum stands an open platform embracing the elements. There is no idol and you see a couple of maces, the favourite weapon of the presiding deity.

But the Kaurava king is not addressed as god by devotees at Poruvazhy Peruviruthy Malanada Duryodhana Temple. For them he is '*appooppan*' (grandfather) and the main offering is kalasam (toddy), the reason a devotee offered 101 bottles of foreign liquor a few days ago.

While the temple, said to be the only Duryodhana temple in south India, is quite famous, strewn across the northern border of Kollam are several lesser-known shrines dedicated to other Kauravas, including Dussasana and Dussala. None of them follows any tantric tradition and no mantras are recited in Sanskrit. The priests simply invoke the deities in Malayalam and seek blessings for the devotees.

The open platform inside the Duryodhana temple at Malanada in Kollam. C. SURESHKUMAR

"The temple remains open 24x7 and devotees cutting across caste and religion are welcome. We follow the Dravidian custom and don't believe in '*rahu*' or '*gulika kaal*' that are usually considered inauspicious," says Krishnan, the priest of the temple.

Myths abound about the origin of temples and the one commonly shared revolves around the story of Pandavas' '*agyatvas*' (incognito exile). Legend has it that the Kauravas came to these parts in search of Pandavas to make them repeat the cycle of exile.

According to Janardhanan Nair, a Bhagavatham reciter at the Dussasana temple known as Ennasseri Malanada, the eldest Kaurava wanted all his siblings nearby.

"We haven't heard about any other Dussasana temple and unlike the general assumption, the deity here is calm and gentle who is very benevolent towards devotees. All these temples have very distinctive custom and we conduct '*kodiyettu*' (ceremonial flag hoisting) during the festival of Kunniradath Malanada where Dussasana's sister Dussala is worshipped," he says.

'101 Kaurava shrines'

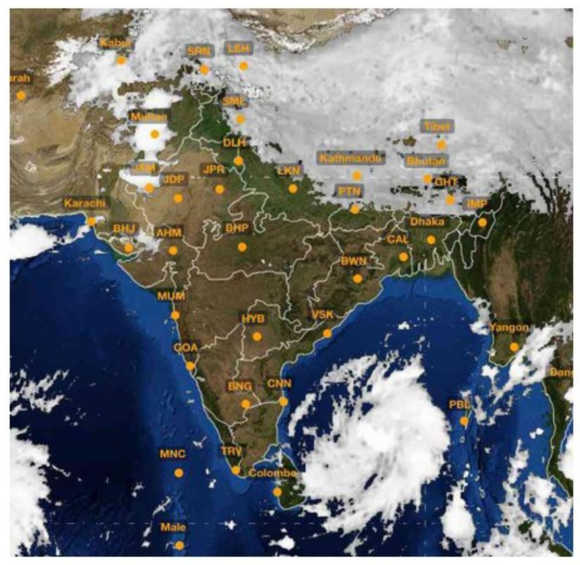
Priests from these temples belong to the Kurava community and the rights are inherited. The Sakuni temple at Pavithreswaram, touted as one-of-a-kind in India, follows similar rituals. "As per myth, there are 101 Kaurava shrines scattered across the four districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Pathanamthitta, and Alappuzha. Each temple has its own legend and though we know about a spate of temples, we don't know the location of the rest," says president of the temple committee Biju M. Thottathil.

However, both prominent and uncharted Kaurava temples may become part of a pilgrimage tourism circuit.

"People outside these villages hardly know about the minor temples and we are trying to identify a few to develop a circuit. Thousands visit the Duryodhana temple during its annual festival and we can offer them packages," says an official.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Gilgit-Baltistan, Muzaffarabad, Punjab, west Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	33.1	21.8	Kozhikode	9	33.8	25.5
Ahmedabad	—	37.5	22.6	Kurnool	—	36.3	25.0
Aizawl	—	31.6	—	Lucknow	—	32.3	17.6
Allahabad	—	33.7	19.7	Madurai	—	34.5	24.5
Bengaluru	—	30.2	20.5	Mangaluru	0.1	32.0	24.2
Bhopal	—	33.9	19.7	Mumbai	—	37.4	25.5
Bhubaneswar	—	32.0	23.0	Mysuru	—	32.4	23.2
Chandigarh	—	31.7	15.8	New Delhi	—	31.4	15.8
Chennai	26	31.5	23.8	Patna	—	33.0	20.0
Coimbatore	—	33.2	23.4	Port Blair	2	30.2	25.0
Dehradun	—	29.3	13.0	Puducherry	—	34.2	25.3
Gangtok	—	20.1	12.2	Pune	—	32.5	22.5
Goa	—	33.8	24.5	Raipur	—	32.7	21.0
Guwahati	—	32.6	21.3	Ranchi	—	29.0	16.4
Hubballi	—	33.0	24.0	Shillong	—	23.5	12.9
Hyderabad	—	32.8	2.6	Shimla	—	20.5	10.2
Imphal	—	31.7	15.4	Srinagar	—	21.8	4.7
Jaipur	—	33.4	21.6	Thiruvananthapuram	7	31.5	23.7
Kochi	0.8	31.0	24.8	Tiruchi	—	33.5	24.6
Kohima	—	22.8	12.2	Vijayawada	—	33.6	25.4
Kolkata	—	32.5	23.2	Visakhapatnam	—	33.2	26.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.28	154	.26	114	147	
Bengaluru	.10	—	.62	140	157	
Chennai	4	.23	.61	114	116	
Delhi	.10	.79	.46	351	295	
Hyderabad	6	.76	.40	141	114	
Kolkata	.40	.44	.20	83	108	
Lucknow	.10	.28	.43	197	180	
Mumbai	6	.54	.74	270	148	
Pune	133	222	113	225	130	
Visakhapatnam	3	.36	.40	79	117	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 289 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Rishikesh, Uttarakhand recorded a healthy AQI score of 31

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

From Page One

Gaganyaan test flight successful

After the test vehicle lifted off from the first launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, it ticked off all the boxes for ISRO to declare that the TV-D1 test flight had been accomplished, and the crew escape system (CES) had performed as intended. The Indian Navy then recovered the crew module after it touched down in the Bay of Bengal, and brought it to Chennai port to hand it over to the ISRO.

After the successful launch, the ISRO Chairman announced that the first unmanned Gaganyaan vehicle mission would take place in the beginning of 2024. "I am very happy to announce the successful accomplishment of the TV-D1 mission. The purpose of this mission was to demonstrate the Crew Escape System for the Gaganyaan program through a test vehicle demonstration in which the vehicle went up to a Mach number which is the speed of sound, slightly above it, and initiated an abort condition for the CES to function," Mr. Somanath said. "The CES took the crew module away from the vehicle, and subsequent operations of the crew module separation of the crew escape system, all the parachutes opening and touch down at the sea at the required velocity has been very well accomplished and we have confirmation of the data for all of this," he added.

Sharif returns to Pak. ahead of election

Later, an anti-corruption court sentenced him to 10 years in jail on graft charges. During Sharif's jail term, Khan allowed Sharif to travel abroad for treatment after he complained of chest pain. Sharif later prolonged his stay in London. In 2020, an anti-graft court in Islamabad issued a warrant for his arrest after he failed to return home.

On Thursday, the Supreme Court granted him protection from arrest till October 24 in the cases, clearing the way for his return.

At Islamabad airport on Saturday, legal advisers and PML-N members welcomed him. He then flew to Lahore, where he addressed a huge rally at the iconic Minar-i-Pakistan. He said he has no desire to seek revenge but wishes to end the country's tough economic conditions and put it back on the path of growth. He noted that if Pakistan had been run on his 1990 economic model, not a single person would have been unemployed, and there would have been no poverty.

His return comes as Pakistan struggles with a deepening political turmoil and one of its worst economic crises.

(With PTI inputs)

Divisive flags find no takers at temple fair

Following demand for action by the samiti, the Mangaluru South Police, on October 18, *suo motu* registered a case under Section 153A of the Indian Penal Code (Promoting enmity between groups on the ground of religion) against Mr. Pumpwell and other VHP activists. However, they challenged this in the Karnataka High Court the next day and got an interim stay on the FIR.

Sunil from Mangaluru, who has put up a stall of readymade garments, said that at some other fairs a few Muslim groups press for displaying green flags too. "I have displayed both green flags and saffron flags when asked in the interest of my business. But for the first time the VHP has called for displaying saffron flags at the Mangaladevi temple Navaratri festival fair... People from different communities visit the stalls irrespective of the display of flags at the stalls," he said.

Concurring with Mr. Sunil, Zakir Hussain, who has put up a stall selling dry fruit and leather bags, said business in the last six days had not been great, but it had nothing to do with flags. "Business has been generally bleak this year for all," he said and hoped to fiare better in the coming days.

Army's Project Udbhav to tap indigenous military knowledge

The project aims at integrating ancient wisdom with modern military pedagogy through interdisciplinary research, workshops and leadership seminars; it will also facilitate emergence of under-explored theories related to strategic thinking

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

An ambitious effort for the integration of India's "ancient strategic acumen" into the contemporary military domain and develop an "indigenous strategic vocabulary", rooted in India's "philosophy and culture", was launched under Project Udbhav, by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday.

The project's objective is to synthesise ancient wisdom with contemporary military practices, forging a unique and holistic approach to address modern security challenges, said Lt. Gen. Tarun Kumar Aich, Deputy Chief of the Army Staff (Strategy), giving an overview.

Honouring legacy: Rajnath Singh during the inauguration of the Indian Military Heritage Festival in New Delhi on Saturday. PTI

'Strategic thinking'

Project Udbhav, a collaboration between the Army and the United Service Institution of India (USI), a defence services think tank, was launched at the first Indian Military Heritage Festival (IMHF) being organised by the USI.

"It aims to effectively integrate ancient wisdom with modern military pedagogy through interdisciplinary research, workshops and leadership seminars... It will facilitate emergence of previously under-explored thoughts and theories related to strategic thinking, statecraft and warfare, foster deeper understanding and contribute to enriching military training curricula," Lt.Gen. Aich said.

"Going forward, a series of events and workshops will dwell on various facets of our strategic culture and culminate in January next year, with a publication, to document and institutionalise such knowledge."

Elaborating, he said an initiative in this research was earlier taken by the Army Training Command, which after delving into the ancient Indian treatises such as *Arthashastra* by Chanakya and *Nitisara* by Kamandaki and the Mahabharata, compiled the "compendium of 75 stratagems".

Similarly, the College of Defence Management conducted a study to establish linkages between Indian culture and art of strategic thinking and these will also provide valuable inputs for the project, he said.

Ancient military system

The primary deliverables of Project Udbhav are to develop an understanding of ancient military system and indigenous strategic military culture through the study of evolution of Indian military system and strategic thoughts; educating junior military leaders and informing senior military commanders and academia about the theories concepts and teachings available in classical texts; and facilitating the creation of a knowledge pool for scholars and defence personnel for further studies, which will create an understanding of the relevance of these findings in a contemporary context, the Army said.

Reports and papers prepared during various seminars, workshops, and panel discussions will serve as a base for creating valuable publications for wider dissemination and further references.

The objective of the IMHF is to acquaint future thought leaders with the dynamics of comprehensive national security with special emphasis on India's strategic culture, military heritage, education, modernisation of security forces and Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India), according to the USI.

Lt.Gen. Aich said that ancient Indian knowledge system was rooted in a 5,000-year-old civilisational legacy, which has attached great value to knowledge, with a large body of intellectual texts, world's largest collection of manuscripts, thinkers and schools in so many domains of knowledge.

To begin with, it is essential to understand the depth of knowledge systems and philosophies. It is only then one can comprehend their enduring connect, relevance and applicability in the modern day, he said.

In this regard, the Deputy Chief said works such as Chanakya's *Arthashastra* underscored the importance of strategic alliances and diplomacy, aligning with modern military practices such as international cooperation and soft power projection. "Similarly, the wisdom of *Thirukkural*, the classical Tamil text authored by Thiruvalluvar, the Tamil philosopher, advocates ethical conduct in all endeavours, including warfare. This aligns with modern military codes of ethics of just war and principles of the Geneva Convention."

CBI books one person for cheating U.S. citizen

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has booked a person for his alleged involvement in cyber-enabled fraud, and seized various cryptocurrencies valued at about $930,000 (around ₹7.7 crore) from different crypto-wallets.

The accused has been identified as Ramavat Shaishav, who operated under the pseudonym James Carlson. It is alleged that he contacted a U.S. citizen over phone, introducing himself as a representative of the fraud department of a multinational company and falsely informing the victim that someone had been trying to order a computer using the victim's account.

The accused induced the victim to withdraw cash from his bank accounts and deposit the same in the form of Bitcoins with RockitCoin ATM wallet.

The victim ended up withdrawing $130,000 (around ₹1.08 crore) from his bank accounts on different dates and deposited the same in the Bitcoin address provided by the accused. The funds were misappropriated by the accused. The CBI received inputs from the FBI.

188 policemen died in line of duty over the past year, says Amit Shah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Over the past year, 188 policemen died in the line of duty while ensuring security and law and order in the country, Home Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday.

Speaking on the occasion of Police Commemoration Day, Mr. Shah paid tribute to 36,250 policemen who had sacrificed their lives for the country's internal security since Independence.

"Of all the personnel serving the country, policemen have the toughest duty, be it day or night, winter or summer, festival or regular day. Policemen do not get a chance to celebrate festivals with their families. All our police forces spend the golden years of their lives away from their families on the country's long land border and protect the country through their bravery and sacrifices," the Home Minister said. He added that over the past decade, terrorism, militant attacks, Naxalism, and ethnic violence had reduced by 65% from their peak levels, due to the efforts of the police.

Solemn salute: Widows and family members of policemen paying tribute during the Police Commemoration Day parade in Bhopal on Saturday. A.M. FARUQUI

Legal reform

The three criminal laws that were introduced in Parliament in August, will completely change our criminal justice system, Mr. Shah said. These new laws will replace 150-year-old British-era laws, and will not only reflect "Indianness" but will also protect the rights of every citizen in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution of India, he said. Noting that the Prime Minister had laid emphasis on ending the pendency of cases in courts, Mr. Shah expressed confidence that the country would be successful in bringing transparency and speed to the criminal justice system through the Police Technology Mission, the three new laws, and the Interoperable Criminal Justice System.

Ahead of election, BJP supporter shot dead in Chhattisgarh

The Hindu Bureau
RAIPUR

'The BJP worker had received death threats over setting up an idol of Goddess Durga'

In poll-bound Chhattisgarh, a BJP worker was shot dead by unidentified assailants in the Naxal-affected Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki district on Friday. The party termed the murder a political conspiracy.

The BJP has asked the Election Commission to take cognisance of the police failure to provide security to party workers in the State. On Saturday, BJP leader Raman Singh, along with Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, visited the slain party worker's village and met the bereaved family. Mr. Singh said the slain BJP worker had received death threats over setting up an idol of Goddess Durga amid Navaratri festival.

In a press statement, the BJP said that the murder took place when the victim, Birju Taram, was returning from a public meeting addressed by Mr. Singh. Mohla-Manpur is one of the 20 constituencies which will go to the polls on November 7 in the first phase of the two-phase Assembly election.

Earlier, Superintendent of Police Ratna Singh told presspersons that eyewitnesses had said there were two or three assailants.

Providing an update on Saturday, Additional Superintendent of Police Vivek Shukla said the initial probe indicated involvement of Maoist elements.

The BJP's national spokesperson, Gaurav Bhatia, who was in Raipur, attacked the Baghel government over the law and order situation in the State.

'Dreadful' return flight for Indian pilots overseas

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

After nearly 15 years of flying for a global major in South-East Asia, Biju Mathew (name changed to protect privacy) found himself without a job in August 2020. The airline laid off all its foreign pilots as COVID-19 brought air travel to a standstill. He decided to return to his homeland and obtain an Indian licence.

Three years on, he still does not have an Indian flying permit.

In July, his original employer offered him his job back. "I had to swallow my pride and return," he says. He still wants to be in India, where the aviation industry is expanding at almost 10% over the last decade, 2.5 times the global average.

Indian pilots working for foreign carriers say they would like to be closer home, despite a higher salary and perks abroad. They remember the discrimination they faced because of their foreign nationality, in the aftermath of COVID-19. But obtaining a new Indian licence or renewing a lapsed one is "too dreadful". The paperwork just to appear for the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) exams can take up to a year. Many have found it easier to obtain a permit for another country and shift from countries such as Singapore to Qatar. The concerns come at a time when 970 aircraft have been ordered by Air India and IndiGo, reviving the issue of pilot shortage in the country. Air India CEO Campbell Wilson has appealed to Indian pilots globally to consider a career in the airline, while also starting to recruit expats. Boeing has estimated that India will need 31,000 pilots in the next 20 years, or nearly 1,500 pilots every year.

The Indian aviation industry is expanding at almost 10% over the last decade. AFP

When Mr. Mathew arrived in India in September 2020, he started the process to obtain a licence from the DGCA. He first needed to get his Class 10 and 12 marksheets verified from the Kerala Board of Public Examination to be eligible for a "computer number" to appear for the exams. He appeared for two exams in November and December and cleared them. Next, instead of appearing for a radio telephony exam, he decided to seek a temporary conversion of his foreign licence for radio skills to an Indian one. But his foreign permit too lapsed in March 2021. Before he resumed the procedure towards the end of 2022, he also had to finish 20 hours of flying at a school over three weeks. This cost him ₹8-9 lakh.

Not only is it easier for an Indian pilot to work overseas, in some cases it is also much easier for a foreign pilot to work in India, pilots point out. Under the Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorisation (FATA), the DGCA recognises the licence and ratings issued by any country that is a member of the UN's International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). It allows pilots of foreign nationalities to work in India for three months to a year. Out of the 10,000 pilots in India, 67 were foreign nationals according to government data in Parliament in March. Many argue that the same rules should apply to Indian pilots who have worked in an ICAO contracting state.

DoPT asks senior officers to promote and advertise nine years of govt. achievements

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The officers, including those from the IAS, will promote the achievements of the government

The Union government has asked all departments to nominate officers to act as *Rath Prabharis* or special officers, who will be expected to advertise and promote the achievements of the government over the past nine years. The Opposition Congress asked how civil servants could be asked to do such pre-poll "political propaganda" for the government.

The officers, including those from the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), will showcase the achievements of the government up to the panchayat-level as part of a Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, which will run from November 20 to January 25, 2024.

In the October 17 letter, the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) and the Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, said that the Yatra was for "disseminating information, awareness and extending services at Gram Panchayat level." "In order to coordinate for the planning, execution, monitoring of the Rath Yatra, the government has decided to deploy Joint Secretaries, Directors, and Deputy Secretaries as *Rath Prabharis*." *The Hindu* has confirmed that the communication was sent to all government departments.

One such letter, which was sent to the Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, was shared by Congress leader Pawan Khera on X.

Senior leader quits Cong. after second list in M.P.

The Hindu Bureau
BHOPAL

Protests by various Congress leaders and workers that began after the party released its second list of candidates for the Madhya Pradesh Assembly election intensified on Saturday with resignations and demonstrations against party leaders, including State party chief Kamal Nath and Digvijaya Singh.

Damodar Singh Yadav, M.P. Congress vice-president and working president of its backward class wing, in a letter to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and leader Rahul Gandhi, said he was resigning from the party's primary membership and accused it of "neglecting and using" the people from backward classes.

"You have been talking about 'the more the population, the more rights' but the Congress has only fielded 23-24% candidates from backward classes in its declared lists," he wrote.

Mr. Yadav also claimed that he had recently written to Mr. Nath and Randeep Surjewala, AICC general secretary in charge of M.P., and demanded 126 seats for Other Backward Class (OBC) leaders.

"But, we only got 55 while there are 3.5 crore voters from backward classes in the State. There are only 10 lakh people from feudal background but they have got 35 tickets. This is grave injustice," he wrote in the letter.

Cong. first list has Gehlot, Pilot; BJP fields Raje and her loyalists

Congress announces names of candidates for 33 of total 200 seats including supporters of both leaders; BJP declares names of 83 candidates on its second list which does a balancing act, party has so far fielded candidates for 124 seats

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

Electoral high: Ashok Gehlot meets ticket seekers and supporters at the AICC headquarters in New Delhi; supporters of BJP candidate Jethanand Vyas (with garland) cheers as his name appeared on the party's second list. PTI

After several days of intense negotiations, the ruling Congress in Rajasthan on Saturday announced its first list of candidates for 33 of the 200 seats for the November 25 Assembly election. Twenty-nine of them are MLAs.

The Opposition BJP declared the names of 83 candidates on its second list, fielding former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje from her traditional seat, Jhalrapatan.

The Congress list contained the constituencies represented by top leaders such as Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Assembly Speaker C.P. Joshi, former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot, and Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee president Govind Singh Dotasra. Mr. Gehlot will contest the polls from Sardarpura, Mr. Joshi from Nathdwara, Mr. Pilot from Tonk, and Mr. Dotasra from Lachhmangarh.

Apart from the MLAs, the Congress has fielded four candidates in the constituencies where they lost to the BJP in 2018. They are Archana Sharma (Malviya Nagar, Jaipur), Pushpendra Bhardwaj (Sanganer), Lalit Kumar Yadav (Mundawar), and Vivek Dhakar (Mandalgarh).

Independent MLA Ramila Khadiya has been fielded as a Congress candidate from her Kushalgarh seat. She supported the Gehlot government during the political crisis in 2020. Mr. Gehlot praised Ms. Khadiya recently, saying she had not changed sides despite money being placed in her car by those indulging in horse-trading.

The candidates considered loyalists of Mr. Pilot named on the list include Indraj Singh Gujjar (Viratnagar), Mukesh Bhakar (Ladnun), and Ramniwas Gawariya (Parbatsar). Four candidates each were declared for the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Among the members of the State Cabinet, Mahendrajeet Singh Malviya has been retained from Bagidora, Mamta Bhupesh from Sikrai, and Tika Ram Jully from Alwar Rural. Ministers of State Ashok Chandna and Bhanwar Singh Bhati will contest the polls again from Hindoli and Kolayat, respectively.

No MPs in second list

The BJP's list of 83 nominees took the total number of the party's candidates declared so far to 124. Unlike the first list released on October 9, in which seven MPs were fielded, the second list did not contain the names of any MPs.

The BJP has fielded several loyalists of Ms. Raje in a balancing act after the first list having sidelined them. While Ms. Raje will contest from Jhalrapatan, where she has been winning since 2003, her supporter and former Minister Narpat Singh Rajvi, who was dropped from his Vidyadhar Nagar seat in Jaipur, was given ticket from Chittorgarh. Mr. Rajvi, the son-in-law of former President and BJP stalwart, Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, had expressed displeasure over his replacement by Rajsamand MP Diya Kumari. He had won the Chittorgarh seat in 1993 and 2003.

Other loyalists of Ms. Raje fielded include Kalicharan Saraf (Malviya Nagar, Jaipur), Pratap Singh Singhvi (Chhabra), Vasudev Devnani (Ajmer North), Anita Bhadel (Ajmer South), Otaram Dewasi (Sirohi), Srichand Kriplani (Nimbahera), Siddhi Kumari (Bikaner East), Hem Singh Bhadana (Thanagazi) and Ramswaroop Lamba (Nasirabad).

Jyoti Mirdha, hailing from the family of veteran Jat leader Nathuram Mirdha, has been nominated from the Jat-dominated Nagaur constituency. Ms. Mirdha recently left the Congress to join the BJP. Vishwaraj Singh Mewar, a descendant of the legendary Rajput ruler Maharan Pratap who joined the BJP recently, will contest the polls from Nathdwara.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, Rajendra Rathore, has been shifted from Churu to the nearby Taranagar seat, where he had earlier won. Deputy Leader of the Opposition and former BJP State president Satish Poonia has been fielded again from Amber, near Jaipur.

BJP names 92 more candidates in M.P.; two more seats left

The Hindu Bureau
BHOPAL

A BJP campaign poster in Madhya Pradesh ANI

The BJP on Saturday released its fifth list of 92 candidates for the November 17 Madhya Pradesh Assembly election. With this, the party has declared its candidates for 228 of the 230 constituencies in the State with the names for only two seats – Guna and Vidisha – yet to be finalised.

The announcement comes after the BJP's Central Election Committee met on Friday night. The meeting was chaired by party president J.P. Nadda and attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, and BJP State chief V.D. Sharma.

The party had earlier declared candidates for 136 constituencies, with its first list of 39 candidates out as early as August 17. The contest between the BJP and the Congress is now clear in 227 seats.

The party has not named any MPs or national leaders as candidates this time. In earlier lists, the party sprang a surprise by fielding the Union Ministers Narendra Singh Tomar, Prahlad Singh Patel, and Faggan Singh Kulaste, four MPs and one party general secretary, Kailash Vijayvargiya.

The BJP has denied ticket to 29 MLAs, including three Ministers, in the fresh list.

While Mr. Vijayvargiya was fielded from the Indore-1 constituency, his son and Indore-3 MLA, Akash Vijayvargiya, did not feature in the fresh list. Instead, the party has fielded Rakesh Golu Shukla from that seat.

Replacing Minister Yashodhara Raje Scindia, who announced that she would not contest the polls this time, the BJP has fielded Devendra Kumar Jain for the Shivpuri seat. The announcement put to rest speculation that Ms. Raje's nephew and Union Minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia, could be fielded from Shivpuri or Gwalior.

The State party chief, Mr. Sharma, said that the BJP had so far fielded 28 women candidates and also given prominence to youth, with its youngest candidate in this election being 26-year-old tribal leader Shivram Kannoj from the Dhar district's Manawar seat.

Dubey says MP's login ID used from Dubai; Mahua's ex-partner says he fears for his life

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra outside the old Parliament building during the Special Session in September. PTI

BJP leader Nishikant Dubey fired a fresh salvo without naming Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra that an MP's login ID for the Lok Sabha was opened from Dubai while the lawmaker was in India, endangering India's national security. In response, Ms. Moitra demanded that details of locations from where the login IDs were accessed and where they were present should be made public.

The Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha, headed by BJP MP Vinod Kumar Sonkar, will hold its first meeting on the case on October 26. Mr. Dubey, who filed the complaint accusing Ms. Moitra of getting pecuniary benefits in exchange for asking questions on behalf of the Hiranandani Group, and Ms. Moitra's former partner, advocate Jai Anant Dehadrai, who provided the evidence to Mr. Dubey, have been called for the meeting.

Mr. Dehadrai, meanwhile, has written to Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora complaining of a threat to his life, requesting the Delhi Police to extend protection to him. Mr. Dehadrai claimed that he has been receiving "multiple strange messages from unknown numbers", and calls from unregistered numbers, and has had people barge into his residence ever since he filed his complaint against Ms. Moitra to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), and to Mr. Dubey.

Mr. Dubey, in a post on X, alleged that national security had been compromised for money. "An MP mortgaged the country's security for some money. The parliamentarian's ID was opened from Dubai, when the MP was in India," he posted.

Trinamool and the Opposition parties have been silent on 'cash-for-query' issue after expressing solidarity with Mahua Moitra

Underlining the importance of the breach, Mr. Dubey said the Union government's entire administrative apparatus functions on the National Informatics Centre's network, which also hosts the MPs' accounts.

The Trinamool and the Opposition parties have been silent on the issue after expressing solidarity with Ms. Moitra when the news first broke.

In response, Ms. Moitra has demanded that information on all MPs should be made public. She has said the MPs' staff also have access to the login IDs.

She continued her attack on the Adani Group, alleging that "unknown Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI) own Adani shares whose origin SEBI cannot find & Adani gets MHA clearance to buy Mumbai airport". This, she said, "is the real question of National security. Not email ID that every PA & every unchecked intern team of every MP has publicly & accesses at will".

Ms. Moitra said she was receiving the message about an impending CBI raid on her. "I invite CBI to come home & count my pairs of shoes. But first please file FIR into ₹13,000 crore coal money Adani stole from Indians," she posted on X.

Parliamentary panels applying different standards: Danish Ali

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Danish Ali

Bahujan Samaj Party Lok Sabha member Danish Ali has accused parliamentary panels of applying different standards to recent complaints filed by, and against, MPs from the ruling BJP.

In a letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Mr. Ali said that BJP MP Nishikant Dubey's complaint against Trinamool Congress member Mahua Moitra, which is under the purview of the Lok Sabha's Ethics Committee, is being treated differently from the Opposition's complaints against BJP MP Ramesh Bidhuri for using communally charged and abusive language against Mr. Ali, which is under the consideration of the Privileges Committee.

'Contravening norms'

The established parliamentary procedure, Mr. Ali said, is to call the complainant before the panel first, before calling the accused. "However, in contravention of all set norms, the member, who is accused of making unbecoming remarks against me, appears to have been called and it is proved by the fact that I have not been called for the committee to place my position till now," he said. On the other hand, he pointed out, the Ethics Committee which is deliberating on Mr. Dubey's complaint against Ms. Moitra has called the BJP MP first, sticking to parliamentary norms.

Mr. Bidhuri was called by the Privileges Committee on October 10 but he skipped the meeting, citing a "pressing commitment". He was campaigning in Rajasthan's Tonk district; six days after he made the "abusive remarks" in Parliament, the BJP had appointed him in-charge of the Tonk region.

In striking contrast, within three days of Mr. Dubey's October 15 letter to Mr. Birla accusing Ms. Moitra of taking money for asking parliamentary questions, his complaint was referred to the Ethics panel of the Lok Sabha, which has now called for a meeting on the issue on October 26.

Mr. Ali also criticised the Ethics panel chairperson Vinod Kumar Sonkar for openly discussing Mr. Dubey's complaints.

Akhilesh tones down attack on Congress

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh on Saturday said he received a message from the top-most Congress leader and will accept it but added why did the grand old party hold seat sharing talks in Madhya Pradesh if it did not want to form the alliance.

"Why did they hold meetings with us if they didn't want to form a coalition [Madhya Pradesh alliance]. They could've told us that they don't want to make an alliance at the State level but when the election takes place on the national level, an alliance will be formed," said Mr. Yadav, while talking to reporters in Hardoi. The SP chief said a message from the top-most leader of the grand old party has come that he will adhere to it. He did not name the leader who spoke to him.

Mr. Yadav further toned down his attack on the Congress and invoked socialist stalwart Ram Manohar Lohia and SP founder Mulayam Singh. "If Congress wants to form an alliance, they should form, if they not want it, they should tell clearly, so we prepare ourselves, defeat the BJP and at any point the Congress needs support of Samajwadis, let us know," he said.

Health Ministry rebuts report of going soft on OTT smoking rules

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on Saturday denied *The Hindu*'s report on weak enforcement of anti-tobacco warnings for TV shows and films streamed online.

"A reputed news publication has recently made a claim that the Union Government has reached 'an uneasy compromise' with OTT (over-the-top) streaming services on adding smoking warnings to their content," the Ministry said in a statement. "The report further claims that some platforms have chosen less intrusive warnings as a result of such an agreement. The news report is misinformed and [its] claims are false, misleading and based on misrepresented facts."

The report was based on interviews with an industry participant at a recent meeting between the government and streaming firms, official minutes of the meeting provided to *The Hindu* by the Health Ministry, and a review of content across streaming platforms like Netflix and Amazon Prime Video, including series and films that were released after September 1, when the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Rules, 2023, came into force.

The Health Ministry now says it will not dilute the Rules, whose requirements have not been put on hold officially. "There is no compromise with the rules and action will be initiated by the government for any non-compliance with the OTT Rules 2023," the statement read.

Nitish clears the air on tying up with BJP

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Rubbishing claims that he would team up with the BJP again, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar expressed his disappointment with the way the media had misinterpreted his statement made about the party.

"When I say something, you people [the media] do not listen carefully. People from all parties were sitting in the programme in Motihari, so I put forward my views. When our government was formed in 2005, I started several programmes from Champaran itself. I was discussing all these things and telling them that all of you will remember this, right? So, everyone clapped and said yes, we will remember. It's just that. I have not said anywhere that I am with them [BJP]," Mr. Kumar said at a programme here to pay tribute to Bihar's first CM Shri Krishna Singh on his birth anniversary.

Mr. Kumar said that he was very disappointed when he read the newspapers the following day to see reports that suggested he would ally with the BJP.

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INBRIEF

Adityanath reviews work on Ram temple in Ayodhya

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath visited Ayodhya on Saturday and reviewed the progress in the construction of the Ram temple. Mr. Adityanath, who regularly visits the city, offered prayers at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi and met the officials of Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust. He held discussions with government officials on the ongoing development projects in the city. The State government is giving top priority to the Ram Temple work, along with investment projects worth more than ₹32,000 crore initiated jointly by the State and Union governments for the city of Ayodhya.

Ajit Pawar accuses Opposition of spreading false information

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar on Saturday accused Opposition parties of spreading false information about the government's order for recruiting staff on a contract basis, a decision that the Eknath Shinde-led administration has now reversed. Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday announced the cancellation of the order to hire staff through nine private agencies, stating that the Uddhav Thackeray-led *Maha Vikas Aghadi* (MVA) government initially made this decision. Mr. Fadnavis claimed that these decisions were made during the 15-year rule of the Democratic Front (DF) coalition, although the Congress leaders denied this.

All schools in Odisha told to install lightning arresters

The Odisha government has directed all schools to ensure installation of 'lightning arrester' in the wake of the large number of lightning deaths across the State. The issue was discussed at the 36th Governing Body meeting of the Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) in Bhubaneswar. "Majority of private and public buildings already have robust earthing system for transferring the immediate discharge of electricity directly to the earth plate. Now, schools have been asked to install lightning arrester at the top building that would help pass surge voltage from lightning into the ground," said Gyana Dash, Managing Director of OSDMA.

Meitei Leepun chief gets relief from arrest till December

Meitei Leepun chief Pramot Singh has been granted protection from arrest till December in a case registered against him at the Churachandpur police station in June this year, for which a local court had issued an arrest warrant earlier this month. Mr. Singh had approached the Manipur High Court for relief. Justice Ahanthem Bimol Singh, on October 20, ordered that Mr. Singh be protected from arrest till the next date of hearing on December 6. This case against Mr. Singh was registered under sections pertaining to promoting enmity between ethnic groups over his remarks in an interview with *The Wire*'s Karan Thapar.

SUDOKU

2		9						
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	5	1	4	9	7	3	6	8
3	7	6	1	2	8	5	9	4
9	4	8	3	5	6	2	7	1
8	9	4	5	7	3	6	1	2
6	3	2	8	1	9	7	4	5
7	1	5	2	6	4	9	8	3
4	6	3	7	8	2	1	5	9
1	8	9	6	3	5	4	2	7
5	2	7	9	4	1	8	3	6

India-Canada spat aggravates visa woes for Indian travellers

The diplomatic row may increase visa waiting period and rejections for Indians seeking to travel to Canada; despite many embassies saying that they have streamlined their clearance processes, Indian visa seekers often face long waits

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Hurdles aplenty: Even without a diplomatic row, many Indian visa seekers have to contend with long application processes and unexplained rejections. FILE PHOTO

When Dilpreet Singh Chandhoke applied for a Canadian visa in April, he hoped to visit his sister's family in Canada within a few days. His brother-in-law had been diagnosed with a terminal ailment, and as her eldest brother, he wanted to be at his sister's side in her family's hour of crisis.

Based in Dubai, the 42-year-old had not faced any problems travelling for work. However, the days of waiting turned into weeks and then months, until Canadian authorities responded on October 12, rejecting his visa application, saying, "The purpose of your visit to Canada is not consistent with a temporary stay given the details you have provided in your application."

"As a 42-year-old Indian passport holder who has his family in Delhi and Dubai, I have no desire to shift all the way to Canada. My sole purpose is to be with my sister who is facing a heartbreaking situation because of my brother-in-law's ailment. This rejection is totally irrational," Mr. Chandhoke told *The Hindu*. He is determined to appeal the rejection, arguing that his brother-in-law may not live long.

Impact on ground

With Canada stopping "walk-in" services at its consulates in Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Chandigarh, in response to India's demand for a reduction in the number of Canadian diplomats stationed in the country, Mr. Chandhoke's plight may soon be witnessed by more visa applicants across the country.

He feels that his visa application was a collateral victim of the ongoing spat between India and Canada, which erupted after Canada accused Indian agents of being behind the June 18 murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, Khalistan Tiger Force chief, in Surrey, British Columbia. India has already stopped providing visa services to Canadian citizens at its missions across the world. The Canadian move is now aimed at hurting Indians, he said. "Why should we, the common people, suffer if governments of two countries are caught up in a quarrel?" he asked.

However, even without a diplomatic row to complicate matters, many Indian visa seekers have been hit hard by long application processes and unexplained rejections.

Missed opportunities

Faizan Mohammed of Khajuraho and his friend Anurag Kumar of Delhi, both tourism consultants, had recently applied for Spanish visas, in hopes of studying the Spanish language in Madrid. "My clients in Khajuraho are mostly from Spain and Italy and that is why I had applied for a higher degree at N.L. College in Madrid. We had shown all the necessary documents but finally the visa was denied after a month-long waiting period," Mr. Mohammed said. As he was required to submit his Indian passport to the Spanish embassy for the month-long visa process, he missed out on applying for another opportunity in Oman, he complained.

The tourist consultants say they had also paid 2,600 euros each for the course, even before getting their visas. "In addition, the N.L. College is not returning our money which they are rule-bound to return within 20 days," said Mr. Kumar.

Several embassies, including the U.S. embassy, have claimed that they have taken strong measures to remedy the backlog and make visa services effective and quick, but human experiences on the ground show that much remains to be implemented. As visas are documents granted by a sovereign state to foreign citizens to facilitate time-bound travel to the host country, they are within their right to reject applications. Yet, such applications also carry the dreams and aspirations of applicants, and a visa denial often leaves a traumatic imprint.

U.K., U.S. share concern over departure of Canadian diplomats

Press Trust of India
LONDON/WASHINGTON

The U.K. and the U.S. have expressed concern over the departure of 41 Canadian diplomats from India, with Britain saying it disagrees with Indian government decisions which it believes is behind their exit amid an ongoing stand-off between India and Canada.

While a statement from the U.K.'s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) on Friday said the move impacted the effective functioning of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, the U.S. State Department stressed that resolving differences requires diplomats on the ground. The statements came after Canada said it had withdrawn 41 diplomats following an alleged Indian threat to unilaterally revoke their status.

In New Delhi, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has strongly rejected the allegation and also refuted any violation of the Vienna Convention in relation to the Canadian diplomats' exit. "We reject any attempt to portray the implementation of parity as a violation of international norms," the MEA said.

In solidarity

Loud and clear: Police personnel detain Aam Aadmi Party supporters in Lucknow on Saturday during a protest against the arrest of party MP Sanjay Singh by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with the Delhi excise policy case. ANI

Butterfly makes a rare call in Himachal

Paintbrush swift is rarely found in the State, home to 25% of the butterfly species found in India; 120 species of butterflies have been documented by the Wild Bhattiyat Project in 2022

Vikas Vasudeva
CHANDIGARH

A butterfly that is rare in the western Himalayas, the paintbrush swift has been photographed and documented for the first time in Himachal Pradesh's Chamba district. The State is home to about 25% of the total number of butterfly species found in India.

The paintbrush swift (*Baoris farri*), a butterfly species of the Hesperiidae family, was sighted and photographed in the second week of October during a field survey conducted under the Wild Bhattiyat Project initiated by the Bhattiyat Forest Range of the Dalhousie Forest Division of the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department in 2022.

"The species has never been photographed in Himachal Pradesh since its discovery in 1878. This is the first time that we have photographed and documented it. It was first described by lepidopterist Frederic Moore, more than 145 years ago, from the eastern Himalayas," Sanjeev Kumar, Range Forest Officer at the Bhattiyat Forest Range, who is leading the project, told *The Hindu*.

The paintbrush swift (*Baoris farri*) butterfly has been photographed for the first time in Himachal Pradesh. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Since the launch of the project, the department has so far documented 120 butterfly species.

"We have recorded and documented various uncommon butterfly species like the anomalous nawab, blank swift, tailed jay, siren, etc., which are frequently sighted, but the paintbrush swift has been sighted and photographed for the first time in the lower hills of the Dhauladhar mountain range. We are hopeful of finding more rare butterfly species in the region in the coming days," Mr. Kumar said that the paintbrush swift's habitat distribution is common in northeast, central and south India, and rare in Uttarakhand.

Lovish Garlani, a butterfly expert with the Forest Department, detailed the paintbrush swift butterfly's characteristics.

The paintbrush swift is identified based on two separated spots in the upper forewing cell.

Other closely related species like the blank swift have no cell spot while the figure-of-eight swift has two conjoined cell spots. The species' larvae feed on bamboo and some other grass species.

Till now, there is only one record of the paintbrush swift mentioned from the Shivalik mountain range in the State, but that record is doubtful as no photographic or specimen pieces of evidence were provided in the study.

This is the first time the paintbrush swift has been spotted and photographed in Himachal Pradesh.

It's an encouraging indication of flourishing biodiversity.

Dogra architecture gets a revival at J&K's Maharaj Gunj

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

A project that recreates the past glory of Srinagar's Maharaj Gunj market, which has disappeared from sight with encroachment and deviations for several decades, throws new light on rare architectural elements introduced in Kashmir by Dogra Hindu kings between 1846 and 1947. Now, Srinagar Smart City Ltd. and the Kashmir chapter of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) have joined hands to conserve vernacular elements of Kashmiri architecture, including colonnaded walkways, decorative pilasters, and exposed moulded brickwork, in an effort to bring that past to life again.

"The [Maharaj Gunj market] area has a rich mix of vernacular and colonial architecture. Most residential buildings lining the streets are of mixed use, with shops on the ground floor and living quarters on the upper floors, constructed in the *taq* or *dhajji dewari* styles. Some of the houses going up four floors still bear testament to the rich architectural legacy of Srinagar, with highly ornate exteriors and interiors," Saima Iqbal, principal conservation architect with INTACH, told *The Hindu*.

One of the approach roads from the beautiful 607-year-old Budshah Tomb has already been uplifted with a subtle colour palette, including lime for the walls and brown for the windows. A uniform, traditional character of fenestrations is already changing the character of the location. Shop shutters are being realigned, and repainted with an appropriate colour. A uniform wooden signage has been designed for all the shops, with standardised typeface and size.

The project aims to conserve walkways, decorative pilasters and exposed brickwork.

However, the restoration is not easy, considering the scale of deviations and encroachments. "Most of the buildings have rusting roof sheets, decaying wooden soffits, and eaves boards – all these will be replaced and repaired. To restore the historic character [of the site], many inappropriate interventions are being reversed," Ms. Iqbal said.

Located in the heart of Shehar-e-Khaas, the interior of Srinagar's old city, the Maharaj Gunj market was established by Maharaja Ranbir Singh to provide a fillip to Kashmir's trade and commerce.

"In the pre-1947 era, Maharaj Gunj transcended regional boundaries, attracting traders from prominent cities such as Amritsar, Lahore, Karachi, Rawalpindi, and even parts of Central Asia, who embarked on journeys to this bustling hub in their pursuit of expanding commercial prospects," Saleem Beg, convenor, INTACH-Kashmir, said.

The Srinagar Smart City Mission's revival programme is likely to throw a spotlight on the city's rich cultural heritage, including old shrines, tombs, mosques, temples, and a gurdwara.

Mr. Beg said those buildings that are in structural distress will be strengthened before proceeding with any interventions.

COPENHAGEN

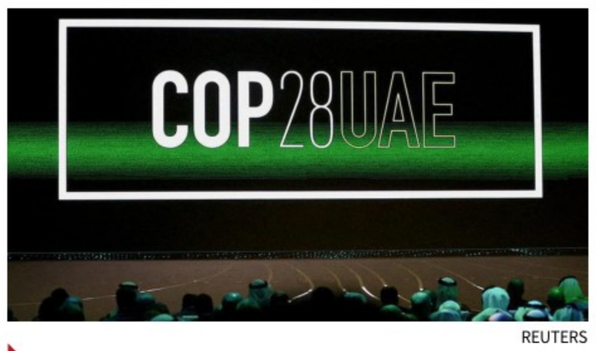
Storm hits Britain, northern Europe, killing at least four people

AP

A storm-battered Britain, northern Germany and southern Scandinavia early on Saturday, for a third day, with powerful winds, heavy rain and storm surges that caused floods, power outages, evacuations and disrupted flights, railway service and ferry lines. Since Thursday, at least four people have died in the storm. AP

PARIS

Climate 'loss and damage' talks end in failure ahead of COP-28



REUTERS

A crucial meeting on climate "loss and damages" ahead of COP-28 ended in failure on Saturday, according to sources. A series of talks held this year have tried to tease out consensus on fundamentals like the structure, beneficiaries and contributors — a key issue for richer nations who want China to pay into the fund. AFP

WASHINGTON

U.S. sanctions 3 Chinese firms for giving missile components to Pak.

REUTERS

The U.S. has imposed sanctions on three China-based companies for supplying missile-applicable items for Pakistan's ballistic missile programme, the State Department said. In the designation, the U.S. State Department said on Friday that the sanctions were being imposed as part of the global nonproliferation regime. PTI

BEIJING

Leading China beermaker initiates probe after worker urination video

REUTERS

One of China's top beermakers says it has opened an investigation after a video appearing to show a factory employee urinating on raw ingredients went viral this week. The clip purportedly shows a worker at a Tsingtao Brewery Co. warehouse clambering into a container and relieving himself onto its contents. AFP

After U.S. request, 20 trucks carrying humanitarian aid drive into Gaza Strip

The aid vehicles have been waiting for days on the Egyptian side after Israel allowed them to cross; UN official says the convoy must not be the last and the delivery would start 'a sustainable effort to provide essential supplies' to Gaza

Agence France-Presse
RAFAH

The first aid trucks arrived in the war-torn Gaza Strip from Egypt on Saturday, bringing humanitarian relief to the Hamas-controlled Palestinian enclave.

AFP journalists on Saturday saw 20 trucks from the Egyptian Red Crescent, which is responsible for delivering aid from various UN agencies, pass through the Rafah border crossing from Egypt into Gaza. The crossing – the only one into Gaza not controlled by Israel – closed again after the trucks passed. The vehicles had been waiting for days on the Egyptian side after Israel agreed to allow aid to enter following the United States' request.

Relief incoming: People on the Egyptian side of the Rafah border crossing watch trucks carrying aid enter to Gaza on Saturday. AFP

UN humanitarian chief Martin Griffiths said the convoy "must not be the last" and that the delivery would start "a sustainable effort to provide essential supplies" to Gaza.

UN chief Antonio Guterres warned that the aid was "the difference between life and death" for many Gazans, more than one million of whom have been displaced.

Israel's military campaign against Hamas has levelled entire city blocks in Gaza, killing more than 4,300 Palestinians, according to the Hamas-run Health Ministry. Israeli troops are massed on the Gaza border ahead of an expected ground invasion that officials have pledged will begin "soon".

Pro-Palestinian protesters hold march in U.K.

Tens of thousands of pro-Palestinian demonstrators marched in London and other cities on Saturday demanding that Israel stop its bombardment of Gaza. Police estimated the crowd winding its way through central London at "up to 100,000."

Arab leaders criticise Israel over Gaza

Egypt and Jordan harshly criticised Israel over its actions in Gaza at a summit on Saturday, a sign that the two Western allies that made peace with Israel decades ago are losing patience with its two-week-old war against Hamas.

Overnight Russian attacks in frontline areas leave 2 dead, several injured, says Ukraine

Associated Press
KYIV

At least two civilians were killed and others wounded across Ukraine as Russian forces continued to shell frontline areas and other parts of the country, local Ukrainian officials reported on Saturday.

In Kryvyi Rih, a 60-year-old man died on Friday evening when a Russian missile slammed into an industrial facility, according to Telegram posts by Mayor Oleksandr Vilkul. Mr. Vilkul added that the man's wife was hospitalised with serious shrapnel wounds.

Early on Saturday, he reported that Russian missiles and drones overnight hit the same site again, causing unspecified damage and sparking a fire that was put out by morning. He did not elaborate on the site's nature or whether it was linked to Ukraine's war effort.

Oleksandr Vilkul

In Ukraine's front-line Kherson region in the south, one civilian was killed and another suffered wounds as Russian forces launched "mass shelling" attacks, Gov. Oleksandr Prokudin reported on Saturday. In a Telegram post, Mr. Prokudin said that Russian troops used mortars, artillery, tanks, drones, and multiple-rocket launchers to target the province, striking some residential areas.

Russian shelling over the past day also wounded one civilian in the frontline city of Avdiivka, in Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, acting local Governor Ihor Moroz reported on Saturday. Avdiivka has been fiercely contested by Russian and Ukrainian forces over the past weeks as Kyiv's forces try to hold off waves of Russian attacks.

Mr. Moroz said that exploding drones, missiles, mortars and artillery shells fired by Russian troops also struck other parts of the province.

EU, U.S. envoys urge Kosovo and Serbia to resume dialogue

Associated Press
PRISTINA

The envoys of the European Union and the United States urged on Saturday Kosovo and Serbia to resume dialogue as the only way to de-escalate the soaring tension between the two nations.

This is the first such visit since September 24 when nearly 30 Serb gunmen crossed into northern Kosovo, killing a police officer and setting up barricades, before launching an hours-long gun battle with Kosovo police. Three gunmen were killed.

EU envoy Miroslav Lajcak and his U.S. counterpart Gabriel Escobar, accompanied by top diplomats from Germany, France and Italy, met with Kosovar Prime Minister Albin Kurti in the capital, Pristina, after which they will head to Belgrade.

"If there is no dialogue, there might be a repetition of escalation," said Mr. Lajcak after meeting with Mr. Kurti.

Mr. Lajcak said they strongly denounced "the terrorist attack against Kosovo police by armed individuals (that) constitutes a clear and unprecedented escalation."

He added that the attack also "very clearly underlined that both de-escalation and normalisation are now more urgent than ever."

Both Serbia and Kosova want to join the EU, which has told them that they first need to sort out their differences.

Western powers want Kosovo and Serbia to implement a 10-point plan put forward by the EU in February to end months of political crises.

Myanmar's junta orders air strikes to recover lost outposts

Agence France-Presse
YANGON

Myanmar's ruling junta ordered air strikes and troop reinforcements as it tried to recover lost outposts near the Chinese border from rebels, the military said. The toppling of Aung San Suu Kyi's civilian government in a 2021 coup sparked a huge backlash and the military junta is now battling opponents across the country.

The Kachin Independence Army (KIA) attacked Myanmar military positions around Muse district in northern Shan state on Thursday and near the remote town of Laiza in Kachin state on Friday.

The military was forced to retreat on Friday afternoon and ordered air strikes, and artillery and troop reinforcements, the junta said in a statement shortly before Friday. The KIA said Saturday that the military had counter-attacked with air strikes and ground artillery.

It added that the junta had suffered some fatalities in the latest clashes this week but did not provide a death toll.

"We seized a lot of guns and other equipment from the military," KIA Colonel Naw Bu told AFP.

The KIA controls large parts of the Christian-majority Kachin state and has clashed with Myanmar's military for decades.

The region has seen intense fighting since the coup, and the junta accuses the KIA of training People's Defence Forces that have sprung up in resistance. The junta has been accused of carrying out bloody attacks on civilians as it struggles to crush resistance to its 2021 coup.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice Is hereby given to general Public that on behalf of my client SRI. SANDEEP SETHIYA S/O Gowtham Chand Sethiya, Aged about 52 years, Residing at, No,4, Lakshmi Road, Shanthi Nagar,Bangalore- 560 027 that the properties which are more particularly described in the schedule hereunder belongs to its absolute owners in possession and enjoyment of the same namely 1) Smt. Muniyamma, W/o Late Narasimhaiah, 2) Sri. Nagaraju.N S/o Narasimhaiah, 3) Smt. Sumalatha.P W/o Nagaraju.N, 4) Sri. Preetham Kumar S/o Nagaraju.N, 5) Kumari. Manyitha.N, D/o Nagaraju.N, 6) Sri. Ramachandra.N, S/o Late Narasimhaiah, 7) Sri. Ramachandra.N S/o Late Narasimhaiah, 8) Smt. G. Ashwini W/o Ramachandra.N all are residents of Menasiganahalli Village, which is decided by my client to purchase the below mentioned schedule properties.

Therefore any person/s having any claim in respect of the below mentioned schedule properties or Part thereof by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, charge, gift, maintenance, inheritance, possession, lease, tenancy, sub tenancy, lien, license, hypothecation transfer of title or beneficial interest under an trust right of prescription or pre-emption or under any agreement or other disposition or under any decree, order or award or otherwise claiming howsoever are hereby requested to make the same known in writing together with supporting documents to the undersigned my office address below mentioned within period of 7 days of this publication hereof falling which the claim of such person/s will deemed to be have been waived and or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

1. All the piece and parcel of the land bearing Old Sy No. 57, New Sy no. 57/1, measuring 1 acre 32 guntas situated at Solur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban dist bounded on:-
East by : 15 feet Road arid Land of Ganesh
West by : Land of G.Sandeep Sethiya,
North by Lands of Ramanna and Karikallappanavara Lagumanna,
South by Land of G.Sandeep Sethiya.
2. All the piece and parcel of the land bearing Old Sy No. 31/2, New Sy no.31/3, measuring 0.08 guntas situated at Solur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban dist bounded on:-
East by : Land of Muniyamma,
West by : Land of G.Sandeep Sethiya,
North by : Land of G.Sandeep Sethiya and private property
South by : Land of Muniyamma

SRI. H.N.Manjunath Advocate
Off at, Office at No.1, 1st floor, Dharamshasta Complex,
Attibele Road, Anekal Town, Bangalore Urban District.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ZILLA PANCHAYAT, HASSAN
DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICE, HASSAN
Phone No.08172-246832 Fax No.08172-246575

TENDER NOTIFICATION

As per Tender Specification Karnataka e-Procurement 1)Tender Reference HDH/EST(6)EQUIPMENT/40/2023-24, DATED: 11-10-2023 2)Submission of application through e-procurement Dated: 10-11-2023 at 05:30.P.M 3)Tender Amount Rs.74.00 Lakhs 4)Date of Opening of Tender Cover Dated: 13-11-2023 Afternoon 12:00 P.M 5)Date of Opening of Finanncial Bid Dated: 18-11-2023 Morning at 11:00.A.M at District Health and Family welfare Office Hassan 6)EMD Amount Rs.1.50 Lakhs 7)If Any Details for contact District Health and Family welfare Office Hassan Phone No.08172-246575 For More Details https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in The Tender accepting authority reserves the right to accept/reject/ cancel the tender without assigning any reasons there off. The details in this regard may be obtained from the office of the District Health and Family Welfare Officer, Hassan. We publish any amendments regarding this tender only on e-procurement portal.

Sd/- District Health and Family Welfare Officer, Hassan

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೧/ಹಿಸನ/ಹಾಸನ/446/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/450/2023–24

Brazil President Lula vetoes Bill limiting Indigenous group's ancestral land claims

Agence France-Presse
BRASÍLIA

Brazil's President announced on Friday that he will partially veto a Bill restricting Indigenous groups' claims to ancestral lands.

President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva will veto a core stipulation of the bill which would have only recognised Indigenous peoples' right to claim territories they occupied or were legally disputing in October 1988, when the Constitution was ratified, Minister of Institutional Relations Alexandre Padilha announced.

Brazil President Lula da Silva participating in the celebration of 20th anniversary of the creation of the Bolsa Familia Programme. AFP

The land rights legislation, backed by the powerful agribusiness sector, is seen by some critics as an effort to counteract Mr. Lula's efforts to bolster environmental and Indigenous land protections, after his campaign pledge to demarcate new tribal territories.

Mr. Padilha said that the president's veto would be partial and not total as Indigenous movements had requested, with the rest of the bill signed into law.

"Everything that attacked the rights of Indigenous peoples, and which contradicted the constitution, and the recent decisions of the court, were vetoed," Mr. Padilha said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform the General Public that, **1) Mr MD ZAKIR AHMED,** son of Mr.MD Saleha Taj, **2) Mrs. IFFATH ZIA,** wife of Asadulla Baig and **3) Mr MOHAMMED TANVEER KHAN,** son of Mohammed Zakaulla Khan, are intending to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, **Mrs. CYNTHIA GERALDINE TWIGG,** wife of Late Mr. Melroy Albert Twigg, presently at residing at Flat 202, 'Prestige Hutchins Court', Cooke Town, Bangalore - 560005

Any person/s , Firm, Company ,Institution, Organisation or Establishment is/are having objection for the transaction with the above owner in respect of the Schedule Property or claims to have any right, title or interest in the Schedule Property, he/she shall intimate the same in writing with documentary evidence to the undersigned within 7 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. In the event no such claim is received within the stipulated time, the above persons shall proceed with aforesaid transaction as if no such claim exists or that they have been waived or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of Residential property formerly forming Part of Plot No. 3 and No.5, situated at KAYAMGUTHA, LINGARAJAPURAM, KASABA HOBLI, BENGALURU, subsequently Numbered as 354, "Q" ROAD, NORTH ROAD EXTENSION, then bearing Corporation No. 6, PEAZOLD ROAD, **now bearing No.26, Hennur Road, St. Thomas Town,** DIVISION NO.49, Presently coming under jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bengaluru in Ward No. 59-MARUTHISEVANAGAR, having P.I.D. Number : 86-1-26, measuring about 1757.58 square feet, with all the buildings standing therein, and bounded on :

EAST BY : Premises No.1, Asoka Road,
WEST BY : Hennur Road (earlier known as Peazold Road),
NORTH BY:Premises No.7, Hennur/Peazold Road,
SOUTH BY :Premises No.5, Hennur/Peazold Road.

Sd/-
Divya Vani H.K., B.A., LL.M.
Advocate
RAVI LOBO & CO.,
No. 37/7, Tank Road,
Meanee Avenue, S.C. Garden,
Bangalore – 560 042,
Ph: 080- 41123363/ 9845043022
Mail: zakirahmed.ms@gmail.com

Place: Bangalore
Dated: 22/10/2023

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.: SEE/Tr(W&M)/MNG/EE(O)/AEE-2/2023-24/3767-73 Date: 20.10.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(e-Procurement mode only)

KPTCL invites tenders for the following works:

(1) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/2023-24/TL/WORK_ INDENT8 for replacement of damaged 400kV DB+0 wind zone-2 towers by new tower at location No. 21 of 400kV Udupi-Hassan Line coming under TL&SS Division Kemar, Karkala in Udupi Taluk, Udupi Dist on TTK Basis.

(2) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/2023-24/EL/WORK_ INDENT186 for Repair/reconditioning of failed 20MVA, 110/ 11kV voltage class Power Transformer of Victory make, Sl.No. 40044/2, YOM: 2011 at 110/33/11kV Bejai Substation (Percentage Tender).

(3) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/2023-24/EL/WORK_ INDENT187 for Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and commissioning of sick Power Transformer of rating 100MVA, 220/110/11kV Voltage class Power Transformer of NGEF Make, Sl.No.6800000058, YOM: 1989, D.O.F: 30.04.2022 at 220kV SRS Kavoor, Mangaluru on Total Turnkey Basis(Percentage Tender).

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The detailed notification regarding subject enquiry in the e-Procurement process can be obtained by logging on to website: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink "**tenders**" on or **after 26.10.2023.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Elecl., Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Maroli, Kulashekara, Mangaluru-575005., Ph: 0824-2211342, 2217597.

Avian influenza viruses undergo major evolutionary changes

The Hindu Bureau

A recent study published in *Nature* reveals major changes in the ecology and evolution of highly pathogenic avian H5 influenza viruses, including a shift in global distribution. The findings suggest that the epicentre of these viruses has extended beyond Asia to new regions including parts of Africa and Europe.

Highly pathogenic avian H5N1 virus activity has intensified globally since 2021, infecting and killing increasing numbers of wild birds and poultry, as well as posing a risk to mammals (including humans). H5N1 emerged in China in 1996. The scale of H5 outbreaks in wild birds has escalated beyond Asia since 2014, but the origins of recent resurgences and the underlying evolution of these viruses has been unclear.

Dr. Vijaykrishna Dhanasekaran from the University of Hong Kong and others examined the changing origins and trends of highly pathogenic avian H5 outbreaks using epidemiological data collected by the Food and Agricultural Organization and the World Organization for Animal Health between 2005 and 2022, alongside the analysis of more than 10,000 whole viral genomes.

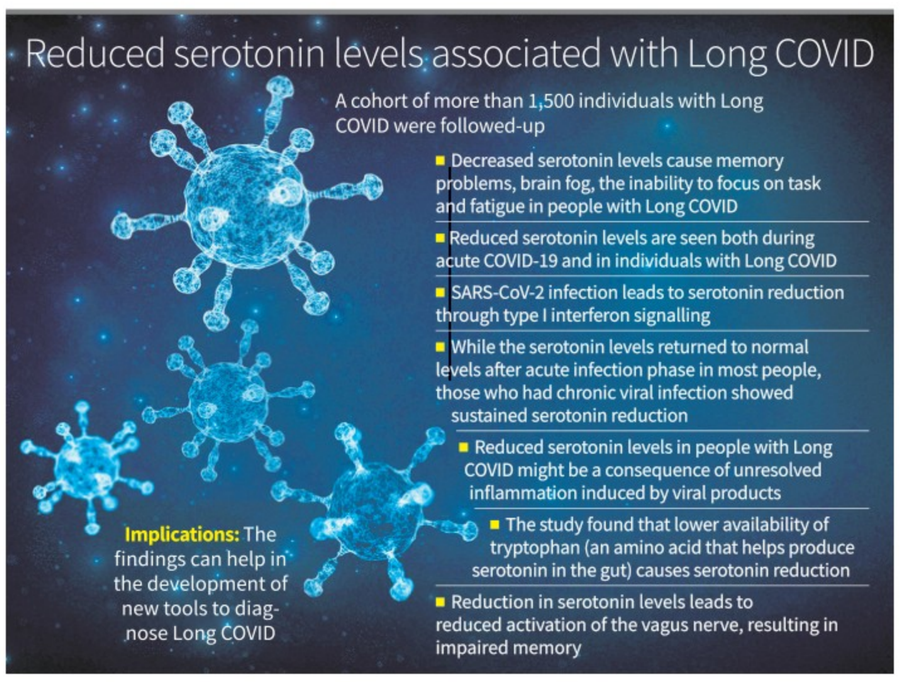
Key resurgent events were identified in 2016/17, with genome analysis revealing that the viral lineages originated in Asia . By contrast, two new H5 viruses identified between 2020 and 2022 that emerged from African and European bird populations indicate a notable shift in H5 epicentre away from Asia and into other continents. These strains were determined to have evolved through genetic reassortment with low pathogenic viral variants as they disseminated. The authors suggest that the increasing persistence of avian influenza in wild bird populations is driving the evolution and spread of new strains.

"These results highlight a shift in the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5 epicentre beyond Asia and indicate that increasing persistence of HPAI H5 in wild birds is facilitating geographic and host range expansion, accelerating dispersion velocity and increasing reassortment potential," they write. The authors suggest that these findings highlight the continued relevance of elimination strategies to limit viral spread and to control the prevalence of highly pathogenic avian influenza within global bird populations, as well as the importance of understanding viral evolution to mitigate and react to new strains.

Possible pathway for Long COVID pathogenesis uncovered

Researchers assessed the metabolite profile of individuals with Long COVID and found serotonin abundance is reduced both during acute COVID-19 and in individuals with multiple long-term symptoms

The Hindu Bureau



Researchers have finally uncovered a multiorgan pathway with important implications for the pathogenesis of Long COVID. Several hypotheses have been proposed to explain the causes of Long COVID. These include the presence of a viral reservoir long after initial infection; chronic inflammation, development of antibodies that mistakenly target and damage a person's own tissues or organs; platelet dysfunction and increased tendency to form blood clots inside blood vessels; and finally autonomic nervous system dysfunction in which the nervous system cannot control processes like heart rate or blood pressure. In addition, people suffering from Long COVID also exhibit reduced levels of peripheral serotonin, which prevents the activity of the vagus nerve system, which transmits signals between the body and the brain, thus impairing hippocampal responses and memory.

A study published recently in the journal *Cell*, researchers from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, who led the study, have found reduced levels of serotonin, a neurotransmitter, being associated with Long COVID. Memory problems, brain fog, and the inability to focus on tasks that people with Long COVID seem to suffer from might be due to reduced serotonin, the authors say. They followed a cohort of more than 1,500 individuals with Long COVID and characterised their spectrum of symptoms.

Animal studies

Dr. Maayan Levy from the University of Pennsylvania and one of the corresponding authors of the paper tweeted that serotonin levels are "reduced both during acute COVID-19 and in individuals with multiple long-term symptoms", and the "phenomenon of serotonin reduction was not unique to SARS-CoV-2 infection since we also observed it in humans and mice acutely or chronically infected with other viruses," she added.

The researchers went a step further by conducting animal studies by infecting mice expressing human ACE2 receptors with the ancestral strain of SARS-CoV-2. As expected, the mice infected exhibited reduced circulating serotonin. The same phenomenon was observed when wildtype mice were infected with the beta variant of SARS-CoV-2 and vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV).

The researchers found that SARS-CoV-2 infection led to serotonin reduction through type I interferon signalling; there is sustained elevation of interferons in people with Long COVID. According to Dr. Levy interferons reduce the serotonin level though three mechanisms – "reduced intestinal uptake of tryptophan, the biosynthetic precursor of serotonin; reduced counts of platelets, which carry serotonin in the circulation; and enhanced enzymatic turnover of serotonin".

While in most people the serotonin levels returned to normal levels after the acute infection phase, those who had chronic viral infection showed sustained serotonin reduction. "We thus speculated that reduced serotonin levels in people with Long COVID might be a consequence of unresolved inflammation induced by viral products," they write. They tested their hypothesis by recreating viral-induced inflammation in mice using synthetic RNA. This led to sufficient reduction in serotonin levels in total plasma and in isolated platelets.

The researchers next investigated the mechanisms by which viral-induced inflammation reduced serotonin levels. Since the plasma tryptophan (an amino acid that helps produce serotonin in the gut and carries messages between nerve cells in the brain and throughout the body) levels are reduced in people during the acute COVID-19, in people with Long COVID and also in mice that were administered synthetic RNA repeatedly, they investigated whether serotonin production during viral infection was limited by reduced tryptophan availability. The mice study suggested that "lower tryptophan availability may cause serotonin reduction". This was demonstrated when mice fed a tryptophan-deficient diet showed reduced plasma serotonin levels. The study also found that viral persistence in the gastrointestinal tract was associated with the development of Long COVID. While viral RNA was detectable in stool samples of a subset of individuals with Long COVID, those who did not have Long COVID did not show viral RNA in stool samples.

They found viral inflammation impaired serotonin storage. Circulating serotonin is transported into platelets. Platelet counts decrease after acute VSV infection and synthetic RNA injection provide an explanation for reduced circulating serotonin levels.

They found serotonin turnover was enhanced during viral inflammation as revealed by increased serotonin degradation product in the urine of virally infected mice and in mice injected with synthetic RNA.

The researchers found that a reduction in serotonin levels leads to "reduced activation of the vagus nerve, resulting in neurocognitive manifestations, such as impaired memory".

'All four quakes were in the same fault system'

R. Prasad

In a short span of about a week, a region about 40 km from Herat, Afghanistan was struck by four shallow focus earthquakes of 6.3 magnitude. The first earthquake of 6.3 magnitude occurred at a depth of 14 km at around 11 am local time on October 7. This was followed by another earthquake of 6.3 magnitude (at 13.5 km depth) about 30 minutes after the first quake. Two more shallow focus earthquakes of 6.3 magnitude at 9 km and 6.3 km depths struck the region close to Herat on October 11 and October 15, respectively. All four earthquakes occurred on east-west striking fault planes that dip to either the north or south. The earthquakes occurred within the Eurasia plate in an intracontinental mountain belt.

Aftershocks, by default, have magnitudes less than the main event. However, all the four earthquakes near Herat have the same magnitude. "Because these two earthquakes [on October 7] and the two subsequent earthquakes [on October 11 and October 15] are all approximately the same magnitude, we would call them 'multiplets' rather than mainshocks, foreshocks, or aftershocks," geophysicist Dr. William Bill Barnhart, Assistant Coordinator at the USGS Earthquake Hazards Program told *The Hindu* by email. On whether the earthquakes had occurred in the same fault, Dr. Barnhart said: "Preliminary, though uncompleted analysis, indicates that all four M6.3 [magnitude] earthquakes occurred along the same fault or fault system. They did not occur in the exact same spot; rather, they ruptured different portions of the same fault along its length. It is rare for an earthquake to rupture the entire length of the fault that the earthquake occurred on, so it often requires multiple earthquakes, spread out over some unknown amount of time, to fully rupture a geologic fault."

Clustering: The four earthquakes in October near Herat, Afghanistan, should be called as 'multiplets' rather than mainshocks or aftershocks. AP

Explaining how the second earthquake on October 7 with 6.3 magnitude had occurred just 30 minutes after the first one, Dr. R.K. Chadha, former scientists at NGRI and currently a Raja Ramanna Fellow at NGRI had told *The Hindu* that "the release of stress in one fault [in Herat] can result in the loading of stress at another fault. The loading of stress can result in another earthquake which can be of similar magnitude or even higher magnitude." Dr. Barnhart elaborating on this further said: "Understanding the relationships between these earthquakes will take further research. However, given the close spatial and temporal proximity of all of these earthquakes, it's reasonable to infer that the stress changes from one earthquake potentially encouraged the subsequent earthquakes. These stressing relationships – where stress changes from one earthquake encourage a subsequent earthquake – are quite common in nature."

Since all the four earthquakes occurred due to thrust faulting, where one block moves up relative to the other, the area where the earthquakes had occurred would experience upliftment. "Observations of surface motion from satellites indicate that there has been at least 55 cm of uplift caused by these earthquakes," Dr. Barnhart said. "Each earthquake causes both uplift and subsidence, with the primary deformation being uplift. The earthquake sequence has led to an accumulation of uplift along the fault that is rupturing. The USGS does not yet have observations of the most recent [October 15] M6.3 earthquake to assess the cumulative uplift from all earthquakes so far. The earthquakes are far enough away from Herat that uplift and/or subsidence within Herat is likely negligible."

On what explains the clustering of four 6.3 magnitude shallow focus earthquakes in a span of about a week, he said that there "isn't yet a consensus scientific answer to this question".

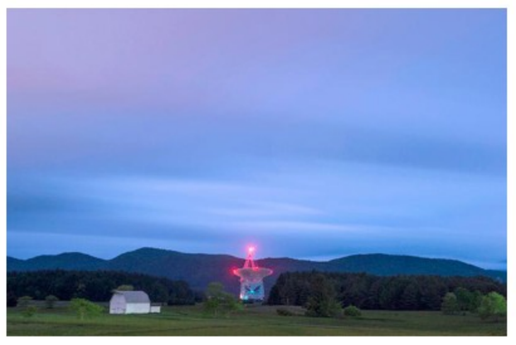
SNAPSHOTS

Periodical cicada emergence disrupts food webs

The periodical mass emergence of cicadas in eastern North American forests can "rewire" forest food webs and initiate a cascade of impacts that propagates throughout the food chain, as per a study that quantified effects of the 2021 Brood X cicada emergence. The study found that when insect-eating birds have prey in the form of cicadas and thus shift their focus away from their usual repast – leaf-eating caterpillars – the caterpillars feast more heavily upon the leaves of oak saplings, doubling insect leaf damage.

Agricultural landscapes erode nest successes of birds

Maximum temperature extremes reduce the nesting success of birds across the United States by nearly 50% in agricultural landscapes but not forests. The findings show that future warming may exacerbate the negative effects of habitat conversion on bird fitness, among species of conservation concern in human-dominated landscapes. By removing insulating tree canopies or other complex microhabitats, many forms of habitat conversion can expose species to more pronounced climate extremes.



A bright fast radio burst probe the distant universe

An unusually high-energy fast radio burst from a high-redshift galaxy has offered new insights into the distant universe, challenging current models of FRB emission. FRBs are brief pulses of radio emission originating from distant extragalactic sources. Researchers have localised the source of the particularly luminous burst FRB 20220610A to a galaxy with a complex morphology located at redshift about 1.01. This FRB is higher than what is predicted by the Macquart relation.

Question Corner

Mars quake

Is Mars tectonically more active than previously thought?

The quake, which had a magnitude of 4.7 and caused vibrations to reverberate through Mars for at least six hours, was recorded by NASA's InSight lander on May 4 2022. Because its seismic signal was similar to previous quakes known to be caused by meteoroid impacts, the team believed that this event (dubbed 'S1222a') might have been caused by an impact , and launched an international search for a fresh crater. For the first time, all missions in orbit around Mars collaborated on a single project – examining data from satellites orbiting Mars to look for a new crater, or any other tell-tale signature of an impact, such as a dust cloud appearing in the hours after the quake. After several months of searching, the team announced today that no fresh crater was found. They conclude that the event was instead caused by the release of enormous tectonic forces within Mars' interior. The results (*Geophysical Research Letters*), indicate that the planet is much more seismically active than previously thought.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

Does India need to relook the Dam Safety Act?

Do the frequency and scale of disasters like in Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh reveal a pattern of neglect?

Saumya Kalia

The story so far:
India has almost 6,000 large dams and about 80% of them are more than 25 years old and carry safety risks. A new Dam Safety Act (DSA) was passed in late 2021. On October 4 this year, a glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF) in North Sikkim's South Lhonak Lake washed away one of the biggest hydropower projects in India, the Teesta III dam at Chungthang. Reports have since revealed there were no early warning systems, no risk assessment or preventive measures in place as required under the Act.

What are the provisions of the Act?

The Dam Safety Act was tabled in the Rajya Sabha in December 2021, as a response to deficient surveillance and maintenance causing dam failure-related disasters. The Act listed key responsibilities and mandated that national and State-level bodies be established for implementation. It said a National Committee on Dam Safety would oversee dam safety policies and regulations; a National Dam Safety Authority would be charged with implementation and resolving State-level disputes; the Chairman of the Central Water Commission (CWC) would head dam safety protocols at the national level; a State Committee on Dam Safety (SCDS) and State Dam Safety Organisation (SDSO) would be set up. Sikkim formed an SCDS on August 17 with nine members and experts in hydrology and dam design.

> Experts say the Sikkim incident exemplifies blind spots in both legislation and implementation

What do the States need to do?

Provisions require States to classify dams based on hazard risk, conduct regular inspections, create emergency action plans, institute emergency flood warning systems, and undertake safety reviews and period risk assessment studies.

Importantly, States were asked to report and record incidents of dam failures. Until now, no statutory provision required systemic reporting of failures and no single agency was tasked with tracking this data. The CWC keeps a record but the list is not updated regularly, Devendra Damle argued in a 2021 working paper for the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy.

Is any action taken for failing to comply?

Failure to comply with any provision of the Act is punishable with imprisonment and/or fines, and "if such obstruction or refusal to comply with directions results in loss of lives or imminent danger thereof, [entity] shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years." For example, in February this year, the Sikkim High Court ordered the Gati Hydropower Project company to pay ₹70 lakh to two widowed mothers, for non-compliance with the Dam Safety Act.

What are the challenges?

Experts say the Sikkim incident exemplifies blind spots in both legislation and implementation. The DSA does not promote risk-based decision-making and fails to incentivise transparency. Himanshu Thakkar, an environmental activist and coordinator of South Asia Network on Dams, Rivers and People, says that the frequency and scale of such disasters reveal a pattern of neglect: "It keeps happening regularly, people face disastrous consequences and we call these 'natural disasters'. But there's nothing natural about them."

How is dam safety undertaken?

Dam safety is a function of many parts: designing and constructing dams that adhere to safety margins, maintaining and operating them per guidelines, recording data in real-time in an accessible format, forecasting hazardous events and instituting emergency plans, to name a few. The Sikkim GLOF reveals poor compliance at all levels, from the dam's design to the spillway capacity (which controls the release of water from a reservoir). Hazard profiling and regular assessment are also mandated by the Act. Hazard risk fluctuates at the slightest touch, responding to climate change, urbanisation, and the way people/companies use water or where they are located. Periodic reviews are expected to bring forth fresh inundation maps and new rule curves (which determine the capacity of dam reservoirs), all of which contribute towards the safety of the downstream areas. Spillway capacity and other metrics should be reviewed every five years or so, but Mr. Thakkar says periodic reviews are often not conducted or if they are, their findings are not not easily available in the public domain. The Act requires dam builders to conduct comprehensive dam safety evaluations, but "there is no standardisation of how the failure is analysed and reported," Mr. Damle stated. The Himachal Pradesh government recently served notices to 21 hydroelectric projects, finding them guilty of non-compliance with the DSA during the July-August floods.

Why did SC not allow same-sex marriage?

What were the petitioners seeking? Why did the court not allow the Special Marriage Act to be used for queer couples to get married? Will the legislature be open to enacting a law to make same-sex marriage legal?

Sudipta Datta

The story so far:
On October 17, a five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court, declined to legalise same-sex marriage, leaving it to Parliament to legislate on the subject. The Bench ruled that there is no fundamental right to marry, and the court cannot intervene. Though all five judges accepted that it was time to end discrimination against same-sex couples, they failed to reach a consensus on giving queer couples the status of a legally recognised "civil union," with a majority of three judges holding that any legal status to such a union can only be through enacted law.

What did the petitioners want?

The petitioners had sought a ruling by which the Special Marriage Act (SMA), 1954, which provides for a civil marriage for couples who cannot marry under their personal law, should be interpreted as gender-neutral, thus allowing same-sex couples to marry under it. The SMA, they argued violated Articles 14, 15, 19, 21 and 25 by not allowing marriage between same-sex, gender non-conforming, LBGTQIA+ couples, and sought the words "husband" and "wife" as well as any other gender-specific term to be substituted by the word "party" or "spouse".

They also sought joint adoption rights, nominee rights with respect to healthcare decisions, "preventative, remedial, protective and punitive measures" by all State governments to guarantee their safety and security, and directions to the Union and State governments, district and police authorities to provide protection to adult, consenting LGBTQIA+ couples from their families.

> 'Conferring legal status to same-sex couples can be only through enacted law'

In rage: The Students' Federation of India along with LGBTQ+ activists protest against the verdict on same-sex marriage, in New Delhi on October 18. AFP

How did the top Court rule?

The Supreme Court said it could not issue a mandamus to Parliament; it determined the scope and effect of certain fundamental rights, and then ruled that the Constitution does not recognise marriage as a fundamental right. "The Constitution does not expressly recognise a fundamental right to marry. An institution cannot be elevated to the realm of a fundamental right based on the content accorded to it by law. However, several facets of the marital relationship are reflections of constitutional values including the right to human dignity and the right to life and personal liberty," it said. The majority opinion, of Justices Ravindra Bhat, Hima Kohli, and backed by a separate concurring judgment by P.S. Narasimha, said that "an entitlement to legal recognition of the right to union – akin to marriage or civil union, or conferring legal status upon the parties to the relationship – can be only through enacted law." The minority opinion, of Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud and Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, said the LGBTQIA+ community had a fundamental right to form relationships and that the state was obligated to recognise and grant legal status to such unions, so that same-sex couples could avail the material benefits provided under the law.

Queerness is a natural phenomenon, the CJI pointed out, which the *Navtej Singh Johar case* had clarified. The judgment in NALSA also explored the presence of the transgender identity and other forms of queerness. The Court said the consequence of the judgments on NALSA and Navtej Johar is that the members of the queer community are no longer second-class citizens. But having said that, it stopped short of legalising same-sex marriage.

Why did SC refuse to read down the SMA?

The Court felt that if the SMA was held void for excluding same-sex couples, it would mean going back to a time when two persons of different castes and religions could not marry. Second, it said that if it were to read down – or up – provisions of the SMA, meaning add or delete words, this would be venturing into the realm of the legislature. "Whether a change should be brought into the legislative regime of the SMA is for Parliament to determine," the CJI said. "This Court cannot either strike down the constitutional validity of SMA or read words into the SMA because of its institutional limitations... [this] would amount to judicial legislation. The Court in the exercise of the power of judicial review must steer clear of matters, particularly those impinging on policy, which fall in the legislative domain," he said.

Will the legislature be open to the idea?

Throughout the hearings, the government held that it was against same-sex marriage. It had also pointed out that judicial intervention would cause "complete havoc with the delicate balance of personal laws." Activists and rights lawyers are not convinced whether the judiciary lobbing the issue back to the legislature will lead to any change. The Court has said the state must take "remedial action" because if it regulates marriage only for heterosexual couples, it "adversely impacts" the LGBTQIA+ community, resulting in their exclusion, and "denial of entitlements/benefits," and that "this injustice and inequity results in discrimination." It has set down a set of guidelines, from setting up a committee chaired by the Cabinet Secretary for the purpose of defining the scope of entitlements of queer couples who are in unions, to directing police stations to not harass the community.

The Court said the state may choose from a number of policy outcomes: they may make all marriage and family related laws gender-neutral, or they may create a separate SMA-like statute in gender-neutral terms. They may pass an Act creating civil unions, or a domestic partnership legislation, among many other alternatives. "Another consequence may be that rather than the Union Government, the State legislatures take action and enact law or frameworks, in the absence of a central law. What is certain, however, is that in questions of such polycentric nature – whether social, or political – the court must exercise restraint and defer to the wisdom of the other branches of the state, which can undertake wide scale public consultation, consensus building and reflect the will of the people, and be in their best interest," Judge Ravindra Bhat said.

What has been the response to the verdict?

The lead petitioner in the case, Supriyo Chakraborty, told *The Hindu* the community had been left "empty-handed." The Supreme Court "admitted there's discrimination, sugar-coated our problems, but in the end gave us nothing," he said. "Marriage is not even a fundamental right in its eyes. If there is a law like the Special Marriage Act, then being a citizen, how can you not have access to that?" he asked. Nadika, a trans and queer writer, researcher and teacher, is disappointed, saying that in the case of NALSA, the Supreme Court did raise the issue of transgender rights and asked the government to pass certain laws for the community. "It felt that the court was engaging with the cause fruitfully, unlike now when it has passed the buck to the legislature – and it's a known fact that the BJP government doesn't care for queer rights," Nadika pointed out.

Will the Sikkim flood impact hydel projects?

How many dams have been proposed in Sikkim? Why are activists and scientists calling for a rethink on the proposed hydro electric projects? Will the government review its dependence on hydropower? What is a Glacial Lake Outburst Flood?

Shiv Sahay Singh

The story so far:
During the early hours of October 4, a sudden surge in the Teesta river washed away habitations in Sikkim, the Chungthang Dam, several bridges and parts of National Highway 10, leaving scores of people dead and missing and thousands homeless. As experts debate the reasons for the collapse, including the failure of automated weather stations, at two high-risk glacial lakes South Lhonak and Shako Cho, the focus is also on the status of other dams and hydel power projects in the State.

What triggered the floods?

Experts point out that the floods in the Teesta river in Sikkim and West Bengal was triggered by a phenomenon called GLOF (Glacial Lake Outburst Flood). GLOF is a sudden release of water from a lake fed by glacier melt that has formed at the side, in front, within, beneath, or on the surface of a glacier. In case of the Sikkim floods, satellite images reveal a large chunk of ice may have fallen from the glacier into the lake creating waves that toppled the moraine dam leading to a GLOF and causing severe flash floods downstream in the Teesta.

> Electricity generation of about 1,806 MW from Sikkim hydel power projects has come to a halt

Tough times: Supplies are transported on a zip line across the Teesta river to Dzongu village that became inaccessible in Sikkim, on October 9. REUTERS

Anil V. Kulkarni, glaciologist and scientist at the Divecha Centre of Climate Change, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru said the South Lhonak lake is one of the most studied lakes for GLOF. According to the glaciologist, recent satellite images suggest the risk has not been eliminated despite the floods because the lake has not dewatered or drained substantially. "Most of the lake is still intact; earlier, based on satellite images, experts thought that the lake had dewatered. But later it was found that under ice there is water," Dr. Kulkarni said.

What is the status of hydel power projects?

Environmentalists, scientists and even the Sikkim government point out that the collapse of the hydel power dam at Chungthang added to the devastation. "The maximum damage took place after the Chungthang dam broke," said Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang.

The 1,200 MW Teesta Stage III hydro power project located at Chungthang village in Mangan district of north Sikkim was commissioned in February 2017 and in a little over six years, the dam collapsed. The Chief Minister of Sikkim raised the issue that the Central Water Commission while approving the project had said that it would be a concrete gravity dam whereas the dam constructed was a rock-filled dam that would not be able to withstand huge floods. According to him, the cost of the project was increased 2.5 times from ₹5,700 crore to ₹13,965 crore. The Chungthang dam, which has a majority stake of the State government under Sikkim Urja, has stopped generating electricity and has filed an insurance claim.

After the floods, not only the Teesta Stage III hydro power project, but all the operational hydel power power projects on the Teesta river in Sikkim have practically become defunct.

According to a filing at the Bombay Stock Exchange, two other hydel power projects of the National Hydel Power Corporation (NHPC) affected by the floods are Teesta-V Power Station (510 MW) and the proposed Teesta-VI (500 MW), being executed by Lanco Teesta Hydro Power Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the NHPC. In another BSE filing on October 18, the NHPC pointed out that the loss to the company was ₹233.56 crore. Electricity generation of about 1,806 MW from hydel power projects in Sikkim has come to a halt because of the floods, according to Chief Secretary V.B. Pathak. Along with the 1,200 MW Chungthang Teesta Stage III that was washed away by the floods, electricity generation at Teesta-V Power Station (510 MW), as well as Dikchu Hydroelectric Project (96 MW), has been stalled because of muck from the floods entering the power stations. Sikkim government officials said there has been no power crisis as the Centre is providing grid electricity.

The Sikkim government is yet to quantify the extent of damage in monetary terms. The Chief Secretary told *The Hindu* that the loss due to GLOF-triggered floods will be in thousands of crores and certainly higher than the Sikkim earthquake (2011), where the loss was estimated to be ₹7,425 crore.

What lies ahead?

After the GLOF-triggered Sikkim floods and widespread loss of lives and property, activists and scientists are calling for a rethink on proposed hydel power projects. Union Minister for Power and Renewable Energy R. K Singh, however, said the floods will not slow down India's reliance on hydropower.

In response to a question by MP Asaduddin Owaisi earlier this year, Mr. Singh had informed Parliament that 87 hydroelectricity projects (HEP) of installed capacity of 22,982 (MW) are operational across the Himalayan belt. Another 30 large HEPs (above 25 MW) with an installed capacity of 11,137 MW are being developed across the Himalayan belt. Five projects are proposed in Sikkim on the Teesta and other rivers. In Sikkim, the assessed hydro power potential is of 4,248 MW of which about 53.7 % (2,282 MW) has been developed and 24.4 % (1,037 MW) is being constructed, according to a PIB release of March, 2023.

Gyatso Lepcha, general secretary of the Affected Citizens of Teesta (ACT), an organisation campaigning against HEPs on the Teesta said in the aftermath of the tragedy, the government should scrap the proposed Teesta IV project and review the upcoming Teesta VI project. On October 17, the Sikkim government directed the State's Vigilance Police to conduct a comprehensive inquiry into any criminal irregularities in the construction of Teesta III dam project, submit a report and transfer the case to the CBI.

PROFILES

Between occupation and the deep blue sea

Gaza

The tiny Mediterranean strip of land has been thrust into the spotlight once again after the October 7 attack by Hamas shattered Israel's security model and brought the Palestine question back to the fore in West Asia

Stanly Johny

PHOTO CREDIT: AFP

When the state of Israel was declared in May 1948 in Palestine, five Arab countries attacked the newly created state, launching the first Arab-Israeli war. In the subsequent months, some 7,00,000 Arabs from Palestine, mostly from areas that became part of the Jewish state, were uprooted from their homes. Most of them took refuge in Gaza, a tiny Mediterranean strip of land, and the West Bank, the land on the western bank of the Jordan River. As refugees started flowing into Gaza, the 356 sq. km territory saw its population swelling to over 2,00,000 within months. In the war, Israel captured more Palestinian territories than what the UN partition plan had envisaged for a Jewish state. Jordan seized the West Bank and East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip fell into the hands of Egypt.

The people of Gaza, who lived under Ottoman rule for centuries and British occupation for decades subsequently, would continue to see their fate being determined by colonisers. Israel would capture the enclave in 1967 and keep it under its control, either through direct military occupation or blockades. Gaza has remained a flashpoint ever since, with occasional bouts of violence. The latest in this episode was the October 7 Sabbath attack by Hamas, the Islamist militants who control Gaza today, that killed at least 1,400 Israelis, mostly civilians. In retaliation, Israel has launched a massive bombing campaign, already killing some 4,000 people, and is now preparing for a ground invasion.

History of Gaza

When Palestine was incorporated into the Ottoman Empire in the 16th century, it was divided into six administrative districts. Gaza Sanjak (District of Gaza) was one of them, stretching from Jaffa in the north (now part of Israel) to Rafah (now, the border crossing with Egypt) in the south. For over four centuries, it remained an Ottoman district of Palestine.

From the early 19th century, Jews, fleeing discrimination in Europe, had started migrating to Palestine. In 1917, during the last leg of the First World War, the British captured Palestine, including Gaza, from a crumbling Ottoman Empire. In the same year, the British had promised to support the creation of "a national home for the Jewish people" in Palestine. After the war, Palestine, comprising today's Israel, West Bank and Gaza, became a British colony. Jewish migration to British-ruled Palestine would pick up pace during the interwar period. This would lead to Arab-Jewish violent riots in the 1930s.

By the time the Second World War was over, Jews had become a sizeable community in Palestine with a parallel administration, the Jewish Agency, and their own militia groups – Haganah and Irgun. Britain approached the UN, declaring its intent to vacate the mandate. The UN partition plan – divide Palestine into an Arab state, a Jewish state and an international city of Jerusalem–was rejected outright by the Arabs. In 1948, just before the British mandate ended, Zionists unilaterally declared the state of Israel, which triggered the 1948 war.

Under the Israeli occupation, there were two different streams of Palestinian movements–the secular nationalism championed by Fatah and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO), and the Islamist awakening promoted by the Muslim Brotherhood. In Gaza, the Brothers had established deep roots. In both Palestinian territories (the West Bank, including East Jerusalem) and Gaza, public anger was building up against Israel's occupation. And Gaza played a major part in the outbreak of the first intifada (uprising) against the occupation. On December 8, 1987, several Palestinians were killed in a traffic incident in Gaza, involving an Israeli driver, which immediately led to a wave of protests, which spread to the West Bank. The PLO called for a mass uprising. A year later, Hamas was established.

The intifada would eventually lead to the Oslo Accords of 1993 which saw a provisional authority (the Palestinian Authority) being formed with limited powers in parts of the West Bank and Gaza. But the real promise of the Oslo process was Palestinian statehood. That would collapse in the mid-1990s as Israel would accuse the Palestinians of reneging on the security promises they made and walk back from its own promises. Hamas, which opposed the Oslo Accords, would continue to carry out attacks against the Israelis during this period. Oslo Accord's failure led to the second intifada in 2000. Both Gaza and the West Bank erupted in violence, and this time, Hamas was in the driving seat.

From the 1970s, Israel promoted Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. In 2005, faced with Hamas's violent resistance, Israel unilaterally decided to pull back troops and settlers from Gaza. For the first time in centuries, Palestinians got a chance to establish their own rule in the enclave, even though Israel's direct occupation of the West Bank and East Jerusalem continued. In the first elections held in the Palestinian territories, in 2006, Hamas came to power, defeating Fatah. The Islamists and the secularists initially formed a unity government. But it would fall apart quickly, particularly after Western countries refused to sanction funds to the Palestinian Authority led by Hamas, which they see as a terrorist outfit. A brief Fatah-Hamas civil war would break out. Fatah ousted Hamas from the West Bank and the latter captured Gaza in 2007. Ever since, Hamas has been the government in Gaza.

But for Israel, Hamas, which it has designated as a terrorist outfit, taking over Gaza was a security challenge. Hamas did not see Israel's withdrawal from Gaza, which is only a part of Palestine, as an end of its conflict with Israel. It said it retained the right to resist as long as Israel continued the occupation of Palestinian territories. On the other side, Israel imposed a land, air and naval blockade on Gaza from 2007 onwards, to control what and who go in and out of the enclave. Constant tensions led to occasional wars.

Largest open prison

Gaza is often described as the world's largest open prison. Its population has ballooned to 2.3 million, making it one of the most densely populated regions. Israel has built barriers along the border – both overland and underground – with limited checkpoints. The unemployment rate in Gaza is roughly 47% (it is 70% among the young). Electricity is scarce – eight-hour power cuts are common. Israel has destroyed Gaza's only airport and restrained access for the Gazans to the Mediterranean Sea.

Over the years, Israel has built a security model based on keeping Palestine's organised resistance under check using force, money, checkpoints, barriers and blockades. In the past, Israel had seen Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, another Islamist group operating from Gaza, launching rockets into Israel in protest against its highhandedness in the West Bank, including raids at the al Aqsa compound in East Jerusalem. But on October 7, Hamas launched an unexpected ground invasion into Israel – something which hasn't happened since 1948. The attack from Gaza shattered Israel's security model and brought the Palestine question, which has been sidelined by both Israel and Arab powers, back to the fore of West Asia. To rebuild its deterrence, Israel is now showering fire and fury on the whole of Gaza.

THE GIST

During the Arab-Israeli war of 1948, Arabs who were uprooted from their homes, took refuge in Gaza and the West Bank. As refugees kept flowing, the population in Gaza swelled to over 2,00,000 within months

After Israel pulled back troops and settlers from Gaza in 2007, elections were held and militant group Hamas has been in power in the region ever since

The territory, which is witness to occasional outbreak of violence, saw its largest flare-up in recent times when Hamas attacked Israel killing some 1,400 people. Israel's military response and blockade has killed 4,000 Palestinians so far and choked the region of aid supplies

A wake-up call

Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

The treaty, signed by 187 countries and ratified by 178, has done well to ensure global nuclear non-proliferation and Russia's de-ratification has the potential to renew nuclear arms race

Priyali Prakash

PHOTO CREDIT: AP

As tension between Moscow and Washington mounts, Russia on Wednesday passed the second and third readings of a Bill to revoke its ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Russian President Vladimir Putin had on October 5 urged the Duma, the Lower House of the country's Parliament, to make the change to "mirror" the position of the U.S., Reuters reported.

The CTBT seeks to ban all nuclear explosions, for both military and peaceful purposes. So far, 187 countries have signed the treaty and 178 have ratified it. The treaty, however, has not legally come into force; it can only do so when it has been signed and ratified by the 44 countries which are part of the treaty's Annex 2 and had formally participated in the 1996 session of the Conference on Disarmament. These countries possessed nuclear power or research reactors at the time.

Of these, North Korea, India and Pakistan have not signed the CTBT. Five of the 44 countries – China, Egypt, Iran, Israel, and the U.S. – have signed but are yet to ratify the treaty; nine countries have nuclear weapons, while the remaining 35 possess nuclear power and research reactors.

First steps

The U.S. conducted the first nuclear test on July 16, 1945, at Alamogordo in New Mexico. Barely a month later, it dropped two atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan. The devastation caused by the bombings drew attention to the nuclear armament race.

The Limited Test Ban Treaty of 1963 (also called the Partial Test Ban Treaty) was the first international step in that direction and prohibited nuclear testing in the atmosphere, underwater, and in outer space. The treaty was signed by the U.S., the erstwhile Soviet Union, and the U.K. It, however, did not extend to underground testing.

Subsequently, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) of 1968 followed as concerns about nuclear stockpiling continued, fuelled by the Cold War between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.

As the Cold War ended, the impetus for the CTBT was bolstered by the global anti-nuclear movement and the newfound international climate of cooperation. Negotiations began in 1994 and concluded in 1996 with the adoption of the treaty text by the United Nations General Assembly.

The CTBT also establishes a comprehensive verification regime to monitor and detect nuclear test explosions. This regime consists of three main components: the International Monitoring System (IMS) which has more than 300 global facilities and can detect seismic (shockwaves through the ground), hydroacoustic (sound waves in oceans), infrasound (ultra-low-frequency sound waves inaudible to the human ear), and radionuclide (radioactive particles and gases from a nuclear explosion in the atmosphere) signals; the International Data Centre which receives data from the IMS network and shares it with member states; and On-Site Inspections which will be possible once the treaty is enforced.

Although the CTBT is stuck in an ongoing ratification impasse, it has had positive implications for global nuclear non-proliferation. Ever since the treaty was opened for signatures in 1996, ten nuclear tests have been conducted – two each by India and Pakistan, and six by North Korea. This is drastically less than the more than 2,000 nuclear tests conducted globally between 1945 and 1996.

Russian impact

Russia's latest actions can embolden other countries to revoke their ratification, renewing the nuclear arms race. The timing of the move is crucial as well, as Russia's conventional efforts in the Ukraine war appear to be stagnating. Western powers like the U.S. and the European Union have interpreted Mr. Putin's threats of escalation in Ukraine to be nuclear. While Ukraine views the Russian move as stepping up its "nuclear blackmail", Moscow has maintained that a change in status quo does not define an intent to carry out a nuclear test and that it won't do so unless the U.S. does it first.

Pioneer of microfinance

Muhammad Yunus

The Nobel Peace Prize winner from Bangladesh, who showed the potential of microfinance in eradicating poverty, is facing more than 150 cases since the Awami League came to power in 2008

Arun Devnath

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR

Muhammad Yunus and his grassroots Grameen Bank won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006 for lending a social conscience to capitalism and "their efforts to create economic and social development from below" in Bangladesh. At 83, the "banker to the poor" does not appear to be slowing down. He strives, he asserts, for a world of three zeros: zero poverty, zero unemployment and zero net carbon emissions.

Instead of shunning capitalism, Mr. Yunus's approach has been to humanise it. "The capitalist system is a machine which sucks up wealth from the bottom to send it to the top. It is not the fault of individuals at the top. They follow what the system asks them to do: chase money," Mr. Yunus said in an interview with *The New York Times* in 2017. "But in the process, wealth at the top grows like a giant mushroom owned by fewer and fewer people – for the simple reason that the more they have, the more they get. Wealth is a magnet."

Small loans

Mr. Yunus modified this system by allowing humans to express selflessness through what is known as social business. The concept, although deemed unrealistic by many, caught the Western imagination. It evolved from his practice of granting poor people small loans on easy terms – the cornerstone of the Grameen Bank since its establishment in 1983.

After completing his studies in Bangladesh and the U.S., Mr. Yunus was appointed professor of economics at the University of Chittagong in 1972. When Bangladesh suffered a famine in 1974, he ventured beyond the realm of teaching. He decided to give loans to people who wanted to start their own small enterprises. That initiative was expanded through the Grameen Bank on a large scale. Under his tutelage, the Grameen Bank played a pivotal role in eradicating poverty through microlending. More than 100 nations have sought to replicate this model.

However, his 'banking for the poor' venture has come under attack from some quarters. Microcredit is said to carry unusually high interest rates due to a lack of collateral and the overheads associated with administering small loans. Mr. Yunus himself admitted that some organisations may have abused the microcredit system for profit. As microcredit expanded all over the world, it became less likely that borrowers would be monitored and protected from falling deep into debt like before. Critics cite modest benefits associated with microcredit, overindebtedness, and a trend toward commercialisation that is less focused on serving the poor.

Disputes at home

At home, Mr. Yunus became embroiled in a barrage of legal cases. In 2011, he was removed by Bangladesh's central bank from the post of managing director at the world's best-known microlender, for holding on to the post past his retirement age. Mr. Yunus lost the court battle stemming from regulatory steps. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, on many occasions, accused him of influencing the World Bank's exit from the nation's largest bridge project, an allegation he has consistently denied.

More than a decade later, a criminal case against Mr. Yunus alleges three breaches under the country's Labour Act and may lead to a jail sentence. This is just one of more than 150 cases filed against him after the ruling Awami League party came to power in 2008, according to Amnesty International. On October 5, the nation's anti-graft agency interrogated Mr. Yunus for more than an hour on money laundering charges. He has denied any wrongdoing.

Despite all these unsavoury sideshows, Mr. Yunus will be remembered for his role in expanding microfinance around the world. Almost 40 years ago, when the concept of microfinance as a poverty reduction tool was in its infancy, he fuelled hope that microcredit would transform economic and social structures with its focus on reaching the previously unbanked. By one estimate, the global microfinance market was valued at $178.8 billion in 2020 and is projected to reach $496.9 billion by 2030.

INBRIEF

Paytm Payments at a 'farm's length' from One97: Sharma

Paytm Payments Bank Ltd. and One97 Communications Ltd. (OCL) are two different companies which operate not just at arm's length but 'at farm's' length, a top official of Paytm said. In response to a question on the impact of the RBI banning Paytm Payment Bank Ltd. (PPBL) from onboarding new customers, Paytm founder and CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma said that the company does not need incremental customers for the growth of the credit business. PTI

GOCL bags ₹766-cr. order for explosives from Coal India

GOCL Corporation has bagged a ₹766-crore order from state-owned Coal India Ltd. (CIL) to supply explosives. The order will be completed over a period of two years – from October 2023 to October 2025 – the company said in a statement. The explosives are used at mining sites for blast purposes. Besides, GOCL Corporation also supplies products for mining infrastructure projects. Coal India, under the Ministry of Coal, is the country's largest coal-producing firm. PTI

Sterling and Wilson Renewable Q2 net loss narrows to ₹54.5 cr.

Sterling and Wilson Renewable Energy Ltd. said its consolidated net loss narrowed to ₹54.5 crore in the September quarter due to higher income. It had clocked a net loss of ₹298.71 crore during the September 2022 quarter, the firm said in a filing. Total income rose ₹776.73 crore from ₹410.80 crore. Expenses increased to ₹826.68 crore from ₹719.2 crore. The company's offerings include EPC solutions for hybrid energy and energy storage. PTI

ICICI Bank Q2 net climbs 36% to ₹10,261 cr.

Improvement in asset quality and healthy growth in net interest income contribute to a jump in the standalone net profit of the country's second-largest private lender; The SME business, comprising borrowers with a turnover of less than ₹250 crore, grows by 29.4% year-on-year

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

ICICI Bank reported second-quarter standalone net profit grew by 35.8% year-on-year to ₹10,261 crore, from ₹7,558 crore a year earlier, due to improvement in asset quality and healthy growth in net interest income.

Core operating profit grew by 21.7% year-on-year to ₹14,314 crore, from ₹11,765 crore a year earlier; excluding dividend income from subsidiaries/associates, core operating profit grew by 22.9% year-on-year in the quarter ended September 30, the bank said in a regulatory filing.

NII increased by 23.8% to ₹18,308 crore, from ₹14,787 crore. The bank said its net interest margin was 4.53% in Q2 compared with 4.31% in the same period a year earlier.

During the quarter, the bank's net domestic advances grew by 19.3% year-on-year. The retail loan portfolio grew by 21.4% year-on-year and comprised 54.3% of the total loan portfolio as of September 30, 2023.

The SME business, comprising borrowers with a turnover of less than ₹250 crore, grew by 29.4% year-on-year. The rural portfolio grew by 17.3% year-on-year. The domestic corporate portfolio grew by 15.3% year-on-year. Total advances increased by 18.3% year-on-year to ₹11,10,542 crore as of September 30, 2023.

Asset quality gains: Gross and net NPAs shrank in the last quarter while the capital adequacy ratio met regulatory requirements.

The gross NPA ratio declined to 2.48% as of September 30, 2023, from 2.76% on June 30, 2023.

Net NPA ratio improves

The net NPA ratio declined to 0.43% as of September 30, 2023, from 0.48% on June 30, 2023, and 0.61% on September 30, 2022.

Recoveries and upgrades of NPAs, excluding write-offs and sale, were ₹4,571 crore, compared with ₹3,511 crore in Q1 2023-2024.

The bank had written off gross NPAs amounting to ₹1,922 crore in Q2 FY24, Sandeep Batra, executive director, ICICI Bank said in a conference call. The provision coverage ratio on NPAs was 82.6% as of September 30, he added.

Asked if the bank had seen any stress in personal loans, Mr. Batra answered in the negative.

The bank's total capital adequacy ratio as of September 30, 2023, was 17.6% and Tier-1 capital adequacy was 16.9% compared with the minimum regulatory requirements of 11.7% and 9.7%, respectively.

Kotak Bank Q2 profit rises 23%, RBI clears Vaswani's appointment as MD

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

Kotak Mahindra Bank's consolidated net profit for the September quarter increased by 23.6% to ₹4,422.86 crore, helped by core income.

The private sector lender also said that the Reserve Bank of India had approved the choice of Ashok Vaswani, an external candidate, to lead it and succeed founder Uday Kotak as managing director and chief executive officer.

On a standalone basis, net profit grew to ₹3,191 crore from the year-earlier period's ₹2,581 crore.

The lender's core net interest income rose 20.5% to ₹6,297 crore on a 21% growth in advances and a widening of net interest margin to 5.22%.

At a time when the RBI is voicing concern about the unsecured lending in the system, the bank reported a jump in the share of such loans to more than 11%, from 8.7%.

Interim MD and CEO Dipak Gupta said the bank was "watchful" on the portfolio but would increase the contribution of such loans to the overall book to low- to mid-teens.

He also acknowledged that delinquencies in such portfolios had risen when compared with last year, but was quick to add that the same was lower than the pre-COVID period.

Observing that there was over-leveraging of borrowers, wherein a single borrower's loan borrowings were higher, Mr. Gupta said the issue was, however, not as high as to become a cause for worry.

The bank witnessed a rise in fresh slippages to over ₹1,300 crore from ₹1,200 crore in the previous quarter, CFO Jaimin Bhatt said, adding some of the slippages did come from unsecured loans.

The gross non-performing assets ratio improved to 1.72% from 2.08% in the year-earlier period and 1.77% a quarter earlier.

The bank also announced the RBI had approved the appointment of Mr. Vaswani, who had worked in leadership positions with Citigroup and Barclays, to the top job. He is set to join the bank in December, Mr. Gupta added.

U.S. budget deficit rises 23% to $1.7 tn

Reuters
WASHINGTON

The U.S. government on Friday posted a $1.695 trillion budget deficit in fiscal 2023, a 23% jump from the prior year as revenues fell and outlays for Social Security, Medicare and interest costs on the federal debt rose significantly.

The Treasury Department said the deficit was the largest since a COVID-fueled $2.78 trillion gap in 2021 and marks a return to ballooning deficits after back-to-back declines during President Joe Biden's first two years in office.

The deficit comes as Mr. Biden is asking Congress for $100 billion in new foreign aid and security spending, including $60 billion for Ukraine and $14 billion for Israel, along with funding for U.S. border security and the Indo-Pacific region.

Debt ceiling jam

The huge deficit, which exceeded all pre-COVID deficits, including those brought about by Republican tax cuts passed under Donald Trump and from the financial crisis years, is likely to enflame Mr. Biden's fiscal battles with Republicans in the House of Representatives, whose demands for spending cuts pushed the U.S. to the brink of default in early June over the debt ceiling.

IDBI Bank Q2 profit rises 60% to ₹1,323 cr.

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

IDBI Bank on Saturday reported a 60% rise in net profit to ₹1,323 crore for the second quarter ended September 30 on the back of a fall in bad loans.

The lender controlled by insurer LIC had posted profit of ₹828 crore in the year-earlier period.

Total income in the quarter increased to ₹6,924 crore, from ₹6,066 crore, IDBI Bank said in a regulatory filing.

Interest income climbs

Interest income grew to ₹6,035 crore during the period, from ₹4,978 crore in the corresponding year-earlier quarter.

The bank's asset quality improved significantly with gross non-performing assets (NPAs) declining to 4.90% of the gross advances as of September 30, 2023, against 16.51% at the end of September 2022.

Net NPAs fell to 0.39% from 1.15% in the same quarter a year earlier.

The bank's Capital Adequacy Ratio increased to 21.26%, from 19.48% at the end of the same quarter of the last fiscal year.

Yes Bank net up 47%, flags delinquencies

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

Yes Bank reported a more than 47% increase in net profit to ₹228.64 crore in the September quarter on a lower base, and also indicated it was witnessing higher delinquencies in unsecured loans.

Core net interest income was ₹1,925 crore despite loan growth of 11.2%.

The management attributed the fall to a 0.30 percentage point compression in the net interest margin (NIM) to 2.3%.

The bank recorded a 0.20 percentage point impact on the NIM from repricing of past deposits on elevated interest rates while another 0.35-0.40 percentage point drag came from shortfalls in the priority sector lending targets, where the money is invested in low-yielding Rural Infrastructure Development Fund.

MD and CEO Prashant Kumar said the bank is at the 'near end' of the slippage on NIMs.

Gross NPAs from unsecured loans stood at 2.1%, which is higher than the retail NPAs of 1.4% and the overall 2% for the bank.

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation
Kempegowda Bus Station Division, Bengaluru

NO: KST/KBS/COM/734/2023-24 DATE: 19/10/2023

E- TENDER/NEGOTIATION NOTIFICATION NO: 04/2023-24

Applications are invited from interested parties through E-procurement Portal From 20.10.2023 to 08.11.2023 for selecting licensees for Advertising space at Trumpet Bus Stand, Devanahalli of Kempegowda Bus Station Division, KSRTC, Bengaluru-560009. For more information please visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and ksrtc.karnataka.gov.in Contact: KSRTC: 7760990557/7760990554/HP helpdesk: +91-0846010000/+91-8068948777.

DIPR/CP/1807/AKAR/2023-24

Sd/- Divisional Controller
K B S Division, Bengaluru

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Finance Department)
FISCAL POLICY INSTITUTE (FPI)
Bangalore-Mysore Road, Kengeri, Bengaluru - 560 060.
Ph: 080-2697 1000, Fax: 080-2697 1010, Email: director@fpibangalore.gov.in

No.: FPI-ADM0MISC(MISC)/8/2023-ADMN Date: 20.10.2023

Applications for the Posts of Research Fellow & Research Assistant

Applications are invited for the posts of **Research Fellow & Research Assistant** on contractual basis for Finance Department, GoK, Bengaluru. The eligible candidates may apply in the prescribed application format at detailed and available at **https://fpibengaluru.karnataka.gov.in**

Last date for receipt of completed applications by post or e-Mail is **10.11.2023.**

DIPR/CP/YC/1837/2023-24

Sd/- For Director
Fiscal Policy Institute

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that, our client is proposing to acquire the Commercial Unit described in the Schedule hereinbelow from its recorded owners, Mr Amod Vig and Mrs Shefali Vig.

Any person having any subsisting claim, right, title or interest, in respect of the Commercial Unit or any part thereof, by way of inheritance, transfer of any kind, mortgage, sale, agreement for sale, lease, license, lien, charge, maintenance, easement, gift, acquisition, requisition, or beneficial interest, right of prescription or pre-emption or under any agreement or other disposition or under any suit, decree, injunction order or attachment or award passed by any Court or authority, arbitrator, litigation, *lis-pendens*, order of any adjudicating authority, exchange, partition, power of attorney, bequest, FSI, tenancy, development rights, partnership, family arrangement, settlement, trust, possession, allotment or otherwise encumbrance howsoever ("**Claim**"), are hereby requested to respond, along with complete documentary proof of Claim to the undersigned within a period of 10 (ten) days from the date of publication, failing which, it shall be presumed that no Claim exists and if it existed, the claimant has relinquished or waived such Claim.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the commercial space bearing **Commercial Unit No T6-C06** having a super built up area of 1,389 square feet (inclusive of proportionate share in common areas) on the ground floor bearing PID No 100-12-A-11-319, along with one car parking space on the ground floor and 500 square feet of undivided share, right, title and interest in Pebble Bay, constructed on land admeasuring 11 acres and 20 guntas situated in Nagashetty Halli village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, comprising 2 acres 25 guntas in Survey No 6 (P), 3 acres 32 guntas in Survey No 17 (P), 22 guntas in Survey No 18, 4 acres 11 guntas in Survey Nos 19/1, 19/2, 19/3, 19/4, 19/5, 19/6, 19/7, 19/8, 19/9, 19/10 and 19/11, 4 guntas in Survey No 20/1, and 6 guntas in Survey No 35 situated at NTI Layout 1st stage, now converted and within the limits of BBMP Ward No 18 (old No 100), Sanjayanagar, Bangalore, together with the utilities, fixtures and fittings therein.

Dated this 22nd day of October 2023

Partner
Khaitan & Co LLP
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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Office Of the Deputy Commissioner,
District Urban Development Cell, Vijayapura District, Vijayapura.
Phone No:08352-259855, Email: ka.vijapura.dudc@gmail.com

No: DUDC-5/SWMLEG/CR-/2023-24 . Dated:20.10.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Project Director, DUDC Vijayapur invites from interested KPWD registered contractors and agencies for **Processing and Disposing of Legacy Waste** in 5 ULBs of Vijayapur District tender in two cover system using **KW-4 Documents** for detailed as below.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Description of works	Amount put to Tender	Earnest Money Deposit	Work Completion Period (Excluding monsoon)
1	Providing and Disposal of Legacy Waste at RSyNo 239 and 240 in Muddebihal TMC limit as per CPCB Guidelines DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT 302/CALL-3	198.49	2.97	5 Months
2	Providing and Disposal of Legacy Waste at RSyNo 985/*/1 in Indi TMC limit as per CPCB Guidelines DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT303/CALL-3	224.62	3.36	5 Months
3	Providing and Disposal of Legacy Waste at RSyNo 20/1B AND 20/4 in Basavana Bagewadi TMC limit as per CPCB Guidelines DMA/2023-24/OW/ WORK_INDENT326/CALL-3	154.79	2.32	4 Months
4	Providing and Disposal of Legacy Waste at RSyNo 614 in Sindagi TMC limit as per CPCB Guidelines DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT330/CALL-3	163.18	2.45	4 Months
5	Providing and Disposal of Legacy Waste at RSyNo 252/2A in Talikoti TMC limit as per CPCB Guidelines DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT1675/CALL-2	122.19	1.83	4 Months

Contractors/Agencies who wish to participate in tender can download and submit the tenders through e-Procurement portal at www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in For any clarification contact EE / AEE on working hours at office. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

1) Tender Pre-Bid Meeting **Date: 26-10-2023 at 11.00 am**
2) Last Date for submission of tenders **Date: 02-11-2023 upto 17.00 hrs.**
3) Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids) **Date: 03-11-2023 after 17.15 hrs.**
4) Date of Opening of Tenders (Financial Bids) **Date: 13-11-2023 at 11.00 am afterwards**

Addendum / Corrigendum of tenders is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/238/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2023–24

Sd/- Project Director
District Urban Development Cell, Vijayapur.

'Bharat Tex to prop India as global textiles powerhouse'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Bharat Tex 2024 Expo, to be held from February 26-29 next year, will position India as a truly 1'global textiles powerhouse,' Union Minister Piyush Goyal said on Saturday.

The event has been conceptualised as the biggest textile fair in the world in terms of exhibition area, showcasing India's capabilities as a reliable supplier of textile products spanning the entire value chain under one roof.

The expo will be held in the newly-inaugurated Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi Complexes.

Nuvama Wealth chalks out 300-city expansion plan

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Nuvama Wealth Management Ltd. (formerly Edelweiss Securities Ltd.) plans to expand its reach to more than 300 cities and grow the number of wealth managers to more than 2,000 in the next five years.

The expansion plan comes in the backdrop of India racing towards becoming the world's third-largest economy, and all set to become the fourth largest private wealth market globally by 2028, a top company official said.

The company also aims at scaling up its alternative asset management business, extending the offerings to key offshore markets, including the U.S., West Asia and Europe.

Ashish Kehair

"With financial wealth and penetration doubling in the next 5-6 years, organised wealth management will see robust growth, quadrupling in size," said Ashish Kehair, MD & CEO, Nuvama Group.

"We are well positioned to ride this growth."

Nikhil Srivastava, Partner and MD, Head of India Private Equity, PAG, promoter of Nuvama, said, "Nuvama's vision is to provide clients with comprehensive and tailored wealth management solutions and advice for ultra HNIs, affluent HNIs, corporates and institutions."

Citi research estimates professionally-managed financial wealth made up 15% of the overall wealth in India, compared with 75% in mature markets.

India is expected to continue as one of the world's fastest-growing major economies, with GDP growing at 6-7% in 2024-25 compared with 2-3% for rest of the world, as per World Bank and IMF.

COMMON LINK

India coach Dravid lauds Rahul's wicketkeeping skills

PTI

Rahul Dravid and his namesake K.L. Rahul have many common links, primary being their roots in Karnataka. Another area of fusion is that the India coach had also kept wickets, a skill-set Rahul is replicating. "Rahul has kept superbly in this tournament and then batted really well," acknowledged Dravid.

LAID LOW

Injured Hardik will be missed in important game against NZ

ICC TWITTER

Hardik Pandya's absence will cast a shadow on India when it takes on New Zealand at Dharamshala on Sunday. Coach Rahul Dravid conceded that the all-rounder will be missed but the team has to find a way forward. "Hardik helps balance our squad. But he is going to be missing this game," Dravid said.

FINGERS CROSSED

SKY faces injury scare after being hit on right wrist during practice

K.R. DEEPAK

Suryakumar Yadav faced an injury scare as he was hit on the right wrist during the practice session. The support staff walked in and attended to him for a few moments before the batter decided to curtail his stint. He exited the nets clutching his right wrist and was immediately offered an ice pack by the physio on the affected area.

UNDER ATTACK

Kishan gets stung by a honeybee during India's training session

K.R. DEEPAK

Ishan Kishan left his training session abruptly after being stung by a honeybee on the eve of the clash against New Zealand in Dharamshala. Kishan rushed out of the nets and sat down with attention from the physios for a few minutes. He then stood up and clutched his neck before quickly leaving the training facility.

Top-of-the-table showdown pits clinical India and smooth-sailing New Zealand

The evenly matched teams enter the contest with an unblemished record after four games each; it will be interesting to see what changes the hosts bring in following the unavailability of the injured Hardik; Williamson's absence would be felt by the visitors

ODI WORLD CUP

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
DHARAMSHALA

A mountain rivulet with clear water reflecting bright sunshine gurgled beneath the narrow bridge and the cab driver quipped: "Once Adam Gilchrist hit a six in an IPL game and the ball landed into this stream." The nearby HPCA Stadium always offers enough interplay between nature and sport with the mighty Himalayas being a permanent backdrop.

Like the Galle Stadium fringed by the sea in Sri Lanka, Dharamshala's cricketing outpost is another picture postcard venue. Despite the forecast for rains, this hilly terrain offering stunning vistas and swirling cold air should hopefully warm up on Sunday when India takes on New Zealand in a World Cup game.

The rivals have clambered up these steep heights with four consecutive triumphs under their belts.

Holding the edge

Having scuppered India's World Cup dreams with a semifinal win at Manchester in the 2019 edition, New Zealand is a unit that the Men in Blue would be wary about.

Yet, the host holds an edge even if the weather patterns would suit the visitors with their affinity for dipping temperatures.

India will miss its injured all-rounder Hardik Pandya forcing one change in the playing eleven and it remains to be seen if more replacements are in the offing. The batting has been in order, riding largely on the impetus that skipper Rohit Sharma generates and the assurance that Virat Kohli provides. Shubman Gill, K.L. Rahul and Shreyas Iyer have had their stints too while it would be better for the last named to be more judicious in his shot selection. Lining up against them would be the New Zealand seamers offering seductive charms around the off-stump with Tim Southee back in the reckoning, and there are adequate spinners too like Mitchell Santner.

Despite the heartbreak at Manchester, contests featuring India and New Zealand in the World Cups have offered some vignettes in the past. During a 1987 clash in Nagpur, Chetan Sharma bagged a hattrick and the great Sunil Gavaskar (103 n.o., 88b, 10x4, 3x6) smashed his maiden ODI ton! India wouldn't mind a repeat act from its current squad.

Momentum

Right from the time it defeated England in this World Cup's opener at Ahmedabad on October 5, New Zealand retained its momentum and got past the Netherlands, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

But playing against India in its home environs is a different proposition and regular skipper Kane Williamson's absence would be felt even if stand-in captain Tom Latham has helmed his team well.

New Zealand has always been about the sum being bigger than the parts and it helps that its batting, leaning on Devon Conway, has been on the mark. And on Sunday, hopefully the weather gods would restrain damp clouds from slithering through the surrounding mountain gaps.

The teams (from):

India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (wk), Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer, Suryakumar Yadav, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, R. Ashwin, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur and Kuldeep Yadav.

New Zealand: Tom Latham (Capt. & wk), Kane Williamson, Trent Boult, Mark Chapman, Devon Conway, Lockie Ferguson, Matt Henry, Daryl Mitchell, James Neesham, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Mitchell Santner, Ish Sodhi, Tim Southee and Will Young.

Umpires: Michael Gough and Richard Kettleborough.

Third umpire: Paul Wilson.

Match referee: Andrew Pycroft.

Match starts at 2 p.m.

Different strokes, same goal: Kohli, who made a match-winning hundred against Bangladesh, will be all pumped up while Siraj will be eager to bowl in conditions expected to favour the seamers. K.R. DEEPAK

Today's match

INDIA vs. NEW ZEALAND
Dharamshala
2 p.m.
NEW ZEALAND CRICKET

EYE ON THE SKY
High 27°c
Low 12°c
Generally cloudy with light rain
Source: IMD

H2H IN ODIs

	M	India	New Zealand	Tied	NR
Overall	116	58	50	1	7
In India	38	29	8	0	1
In World Cup	8	3	5	0	0

1975: New Zealand won by four wickets (group stage), Manchester
1979: New Zealand won by eight wickets (group stage), Leeds
1987: India won by 16 runs (group stage), Bengaluru
1987: India won by nine wickets (group stage), Nagpur
1992: New Zealand won by four wickets (round-robin), Dunedin
1999: New Zealand won by five wickets (super six), Nottingham
2003: India won by seven wickets (super six), Centurion
2019*: New Zealand won by 18 runs (semifinal), Manchester

** Earlier, the round-robin match between the two at Nottingham was abandoned due to rain*

What's in store? Rohit and Jadeja have a look at the turf at the HPCA Stadium on Saturday. K.R. DEEPAK

Dravid 'respectfully disagrees' with ICC's rating for two pitches

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
DHARAMSHALA

Correct shots and the right words have often defined the Rahul Dravid persona. But at times he lets the mask slip and makes his point in a forceful manner. There was a distinct nip in the air outside but inside the press conference venue at the HPCA Stadium here on Saturday, a subtle heat was generated as the India coach reacted strongly to the average rating given to the pitches in Chennai and Ahmedabad by the ICC during the current World Cup.

Dravid had his counter ready: "I will respectfully disagree with the average rating given for those two wickets. They were good wickets. If you only want to see 350 games and rate only those wickets as good, then I disagree with that. You have to see different skills on display as well."

The coach added: "It's not as if we wanted to see only fours and sixes, then we might as well have T20 wickets. Why have spinners at all for that matter, if all you want to see is spinners come and bowl 10 overs and go for 60. And then one ball spins or two balls spin and you rate that as average. I disagree with that because I think we should see all skills on display including the ability to rotate strike through the middle."

Lauding the spinners

Dravid also lauded the spin duo of Ravindra Jadeja and Kuldeep Yadav for the manner in which they bowled during the middle overs.

"Our spinners have done a fantastic job. The way the three of them bowled in the first game and then obviously we played with Kuldeep and Jadeja in the next three games. Just the way they bowled, controlled games, took wickets and brought the run rate down, has been due to their skill and ability," the coach said besides describing New Zealand as a 'very good team.'

Trying to adapt to conditions as quickly as possible: Latham

Lalith Kalidas
DHARAMSHALA

New Zealand will receive a Tim Southee boost for Sunday's World Cup match against India here after skipper Tom Latham confirmed his availability on the eve of the much-awaited clash.

Out of action for over a month with a thumb fracture, the senior pacer was one of two key figures consistently missing in New Zealand's unbeaten run in the tournament. Latham also confirmed that regular skipper Kane Williamson was still on the mend.

Latham added that the venue was a relatively fresh experience for a fair share of the squad. "Guys haven't played a lot of cricket up here. So for us, trying to adapt to conditions as quickly as possible will be really important," he said.

Latham refrained from limiting the top-of-the-table contest down to a battle between the Indian top-order and the Kiwi bowlers. "I don't think it's one specific area that you can nail down. India's top order has been fantastic this tournament. Our bowling attack has also done a really good job upfront. So it's going to be a great contest."

Back in the mix: Southee's return would bolster the seam attack against the in-form India. K.R. DEEPAK

A match-up of New Zealand's swing and seam and India's top-order will be crucial

Sunil Gavaskar

With Australia making a dash for the semifinals and doing it the typical aggressive Aussie way, the qualifying scenario has begun to look very interesting, indeed. All eyes, though, will be on the clash between the table toppers New Zealand and India at Dharamshala.

The thin mountain air could help even the white ball to swing, especially once the sun sets and so it will be intriguing to see if India, who have opted to field first and chased down totals successfully, will be able to do so against what is arguably the tournament's best new-ball attack.

Trent Boult and Matt Henry's swing and seam, and Ferguson's pace against Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill and Virat Kohli is a mouth-watering prospect. New Zealand, like India, have a good mix of new ball and spin bowlers and with great support from the fielders are able to exert pressure on the opposition.

Kane Williamson's unlucky injury opened the doors for two players and both Will Young and Rachin Ravindra have grabbed the chance eagerly and have done exactly what was expected of them.

How they cope with Bumrah and Siraj at the start, and then the spin of Kuldeep and Jadeja could well decide if New Zealand get the platform for Mitchell and Co. to launch an attack later. There's Devon Conway, too, who has experience of playing in India and had batted really well in the IPL.

Hardik Pandya's injury may provide a chance for Suryakumar Yadav though with India's top three firing well and both Shreyas and Rahul settling into their jobs they may go in for the pace of Shami for the Dharamshala pitch.

Lovely ground

Dharamshala is probably the loveliest cricketing ground in the world and fans will be hoping that the cricket between the top two teams will also be as pretty to watch.

(Professional Management Group)

South Africa buries England under a mountain of runs

Klaasen's century and the onslaught unleashed by Hendricks and Jansen powers the Proteas to a mammoth 399 before the bowlers derail the chase with quick strikes and help the team register a huge 229-run victory

ODI WORLD CUP

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

It was a hot and humid Saturday afternoon. A near-capacity turnout at the Wankhede Stadium made it even more piping.

While South Africa turned up in red-hot form, England wilted under the sun in the much-anticipated high-voltage clash which turned into a lopsided affair.

Heinrich Klaasen and Marco Jansen's blitzkrieg in the last 10 overs meant South Africa put on 399 for seven, the highest-ever ODI total against England and the second-highest at the venue.

Wood's cameo

Had it not been for Mark Wood wielding the long handle after the Proteas' pace attack had taken the fizz out of the chase, England would have folded up for a total less than the 143 runs South Africa hammered in the last 10 overs.

England innings lasted only 22 overs, before folding up for 173 for nine, with Reece Topley not risking to bat in a lost cause after having hurt his finger in the first innings.

The huge margin of defeat – 229 – coupled with the fact that this was England's third loss in four outings so far means England's hopes of defending the title are fading fast.

Unstoppable: Klaasen was in smashing form. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Even before Jansen starred with the new ball to run through England's top-order and virtually seal the result, it was his batting exploits in a murderous partnership with Klaasen that did the trick for his team.

Captain Temba Bavuma was ruled out due a stomach bug minutes before the toss.

Reeza Hendricks converted the loss into a blessing, adding 120 with Rassie van Dussen after Quinton de Kock perished to Topley in the opening over.

The stand-in captain Aiden Markram continued to build on the good work, first with Hendricks before he missed out on a deserving hundred and later with Klaasen.

But when Topley returned from an injury break to dismiss Markram and David Miller in successive overs, England would have hoped to restrict South Africa to a total well below the eventual one.

While Jansen took time to get his eye in, Klaasen started opening his shoulders up. He drove, cut and pulled with aplomb. And once Jansen started wielding the long handle, an already rattled England bowling unit – beset by injuries and ailments – was found clueless.

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA

Quinton de Kock c Buttler b Topley 4 *(2b, 1x4)*, Reeza Hendricks b Adil Rashid 85 *(75b, 9x4, 3x6)*, Rassie van der Dussen c Bairstow b Adil Rashid 60 *(61b, 8x4)*, Aiden Markram c Bairstow b Topley 42 *(44b, 4x4)*, Heinrich Klaasen b Atkinson 109 *(67b, 12x4, 4x6)*, David Miller c Stokes b Topley 5 *(6b, 1x4)*, Marco Jansen (not out) 75 *(42b, 3x4, 6x6)*, Gerald Coetzee c sub (Livingstone) b Atkinson 3 *(3b)*, Keshav Maharaj (not out) 1 *(1b)*; Extras (b-2, lb-3, w-9, nb-1): 15; Total (for seven wkts. in 50 overs): 399.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-4 (de Kock, 0.2 overs), 2-125 (van der Dussen, 19.4), 3-164 (Hendricks, 25.2), 4-233 (Markram, 34.6), 5-243 (Miller, 36.3), 6-394 (Klaasen, 49.1), 7-398 (Coetzee, 49.5).

ENGLAND BOWLING

Topley 8.5-0-88-3, Willey 9-1-61-0, Root 6.1-0-48-0, Atkinson 9-0-60-2, Wood 7-0-76-0, Adil Rashid 10-0-61-2.

ENGLAND

Jonny Bairstow c van der Dussen b Ngidi 10 *(12b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Dawid Malan c de Kock b Jansen 6 *(11b, 1x4)*, Joe Root c Miller b Jansen 2 *(6b)*, Ben Stokes c & b Rabada 5 *(8b, 1x4)*, Harry Brook lbw b Coetzee 17 *(25b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Jos Buttler c de Kock b Coetzee 15 *(7b, 2x4, 1x6)*, David Willey c Rabada b Ngidi 12 *(12b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Adil Rashid c Hendricks b Coetzee 10 *(14b, 1x4)*, Gus Atkinson b Maharaj 35 *(21b, 7x4)*, Mark Wood (not out) 43 *(17b, 2x4, 5x6)*, Reece Topley absent hurt; Extras (lb-9, w-5, nb-1): 15; Total (in 22 overs): 170.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-18 (Bairstow, 2.3), 2-23 (Root, 3.6), 3-24 (Malan, 5.1), 4-38 (Stokes, 8.1), 5-67 (Buttler, 11.1), 6-68 (Brook, 11.3), 7-84 (Rashid, 15.1), 8-100 (Willey, 16.3), 9-170 (Atkinson, 21.6).

SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING

Ngidi 5-1-26-2, Jansen 5-0-35-2, Rabada 6-1-38-1, Coetzee 4-0-35-3, Maharaj 2-0-27-1.

Toss: England.

Player-of-the-Match: Heinrich Klaasen.

South Africa won by a margin of 229 runs.

Next assignment

South Africa: October 24 vs. **Bangladesh,** Mumbai, 2 p.m.

England: October 26 vs. **Sri Lanka,** Bengaluru, 2 p.m.

Samarawickrama guides the Islanders home

P.K. Ajith Kumar
LUCKNOW

There was no encore from the Netherlands. Instead, there was a vastly improved show from Sri Lanka that could not have been timed better.

A perfectly paced chase gave the former champion its first win in the World Cup. The Islanders went past the Netherlands score of 262 – which had looked unlikely at one stage – with five wickets and 10 balls to spare at the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Stadium on Saturday.

The architect of the chase was Sadeera Samarawickrama, who remained unbeaten on 91 (107b, 7x4). He might be a tad disappointed that he could not go on to complete a hundred, but the team's victory should be compensation enough, especially after his maiden ODI century went in vain against Pakistan at Hyderabad.

It was an excellent knock by Samarawickrama, who did precisely what his team wanted him to. After Kusal Perera and Kusal Mendis fell to a fine spell from off-spinner Aryan Dutt, the No. 4 was involved in some productive partnerships.

He added 52 for the third wicket with opener Pathum Nissanka (54, 52b, 9x4), 77 for the fourth with Charith Asalanka (44, 66b, 2x4, 1x6) and 76 for the fifth with Dhananjaya de Silva (30, 37b, 1x4, 2x6). The partnerships frustrated the Dutch, fresh from their stunning win against South Africa at Dharamshala.

Rivals, but...: Samarawickrama is congratulated by Netherlands off-spinner Dutt. SANDEEP SAXENA

New record

Earlier, it was once again the lower-order that ensured Netherlands would put up a competitive score. Sybrand Engelbrecht and Logan van Beek added 130 for the seventh wicket, breaking the World Cup record set by M.S. Dhoni and Ravindra Jadeja in the 2019 World Cup semifinal against New Zealand at Old Trafford.

When skipper Scott Edwards was bowled off an inside edge by a well-flighted delivery from Maheesh Theekshana that turned a long way from outside the off-stump, Netherlands was 91 for six. But, Engelbrecht and van Beek, both former Under-19 World Cuppers with South Africa and New Zealand respectively, dropped their heads to steady the ship.

Seamers Dilshan Madushanka and Kasun Rajitha may have made the Dutch wonder if the decision to bat first was the right one. It all began with Rajitha's swing trapping Vikramjit Singh leg-before; he then had Max O'Dowd playing on and Colin Ackermann, who was playing well, caught behind.

Madushanka then struck twice in as many overs, sending back Bas de Leede and Teja Nidamanuru. The Lankan bowling was finally getting its act right. And the batters then completed the job for the island nation.

SCOREBOARD

NETHERLANDS

Vikramjit Singh lbw b Rajitha 4 *(13b, 1x4)*, Max O'Dowd b Rajitha 16 *(27b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Colin Ackermann c Mendis b Rajitha 29 *(31b, 5x4)*, Bas de Leede c Perera b Madushanka 6 *(21b)*, Teja Nidamanuru lbw b Madushanka 9 *(16b)*, Scott Edwards b Theekshana 16 *(16b)*, Sybrand Engelbrecht b Madushanka 70 *(82b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Logan van Beek c Asalanka b Rajitha 59 *(75b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Roelof van der Merwe c Mendis b Madushanka 7 *(7b)*, Aryan Dutt (not out) 9 *(6b, 1x4)*, Paul van Meekeren run out 4 *(5b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-26, nb-1, penalty-5): 33; Total (in 49.4 overs): 262.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-7 (Vikramjit, 3.4 overs), 2-48 (O'Dowd, 9.6), 3-54 (Ackermann, 11.6), 4-68 (de Leede, 16.5), 5-71 (Nidamanuru, 18.4), 6-91 (Edwards, 21.2), 7-221 (Engelbrecht, 45.1), 8-244 (van der Merwe, 47.2), 9-252 (van Beek, 48.4).

SRI LANKA BOWLING

Madushanka 9.4-1-49-4, Rajitha 9-0-50-4, Karunaratne 9-1-58-0, Theekshana 10-0-44-1, Hemantha 8-0-42-0, Dhananjaya 4-0-13-0.

SRI LANKA

Pathum Nissanka c Edwards b van Meekeren 54 (52b, 9x4), Kusal Perera c de Leede b Dutt 5 (8b, 1x4), Kusal Mendis c van Meekeren b Dutt 11 (17b, 2x4), Sadeera Samarawickrama (not out) 91 (107b, 7x4), Charith Asalanka b Dutt 44 (66b, 2x4, 1x6), Dhananjaya de Silva b Ackermann 30 (37b, 1x4, 2x6), Dushan Hemantha (not out) 4 (3b, 1x4); Extras (b-13, w-11): 24; Total (for five wkts. in 48.2 overs): 263.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-18 (Perera, 4.3), 2-52 (Mendis, 9.3), 3-104 (Nissanka, 16.1), 4-181 (Asalanka, 32.4), 5-257 (Dhananjaya, 46.5).

NETHERLANDS BOWLING

Dutt 10-0-44-3, van Beek 10-0-57-0, van Meekeren 8-1-39-1, de Leede 3-0-29-0, van der Merwe 9-0-42-0, Ackermann 8.2-0-39-1.

Toss: Netherlands.

PoM: Samarawickrama.

Sri Lanka won by five wickets with 10 deliveries remaining.

Next assignment

Netherlands: October 25 vs. **Australia,** Delhi, 2 p.m.

Sri Lanka: October 26 vs. **England,** Bengaluru, 2 p.m.

If you give yourself time at the back end, you can actually score big: Warner

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

That David Warner is among the most destructive batters in the world is unquestionable. His record at the World Cups has played a big part in the making of that phenom.

He is seventh in the list of most run-getters at the quadrennial event, but four of the six who sit above him have retired and the other two are Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma.

In fact, only Rohit has played fewer innings than Warner to score as many or more runs – 1243 runs from 21 innings averaging 65.42 at a strike-rate of 102.55 to Warner's 1220 from 22 innings averaging 61 at a strike-rate of 100.00.

"What I've established early on in my career is that 50 overs is a long time," Warner said about batting in ODIs.

"And having played Test cricket, you actually can take that out and change gears quite easily. In the first 10 [overs], two new balls, you got to respect that. But if you get away, you can be 50 off the first 10.

"In T20 cricket, I've learnt [how] to change my gears, especially in the IPL. I learned a lot when I was playing for Sunrisers... that you have a lot more time than you think. If you give yourself time at the back end, you can actually score big."

Two of his five World Cup centuries have come against Pakistan.

"I think sometimes you just match up well against certain teams. I'll probably even look at someone like Shaheen Shah [Afridi] and think, 'oh, he probably has my measure'. But he doesn't."

Points table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
New Zealand	4	4	0	8	1.923
India	4	4	0	8	1.659
South Africa	4	3	1	6	2.212
Australia	4	2	2	4	-0.193
Pakistan	4	2	2	4	-0.456
Bangladesh	4	1	3	2	-0.784
Netherlands	4	1	3	2	-0.790
Sri Lanka	4	1	3	2	-1.048
England	4	1	3	2	-1.248
Afghanistan	4	1	3	2	-1.250

Soaring success: Warner, whose ODI ton on Friday was his fourth against Pakistan, says he doesn't really look at stats. K. MURALI KUMAR

The leaderboard

Batting	Inns	Runs	HS	Avg	SR	100s/50s
Rizwan (Pak)	4	294	131*	98.00	96.39	1/1
Rohit (Ind)	4	265	131	66.25	137.30	1/1
Kohli (Ind)	4	259	103*	129.50	90.24	1/2
Bowling	**Inns**	**Wkts**	**BB**	**Avg**	**Econ**	**4W/5W**
Santner (NZ)	4	11	5/59	15.09	4.40	0/1
Madushanka (SL)	4	11	4/49	21.18	6.13	1/0
Bumrah (Ind)	4	10	4/39	13.40	3.62	1/0

City back to winning ways, Arsenal ekes out a draw

On target: Haaland scores City's second. REUTERS

EURO LEAGUES

Reuters
MANCHESTER

Manchester City got back to winning ways with a 2-1 victory over Brighton in the Premier League on Saturday, thanks to first-half goals by Julian Alvarez and Erling Haaland.

After back-to-back league defeats, City was cruising to victory but Ansu Fati's 73rd-minute reply for Brighton threatened to make it an anxious finale at the Etihad Stadium.

Later Arsenal fought back from two goals down to earn a 2-2 draw and preserve its unbeaten start, with late goals from Declan Rice and Leandro Trossard.

Earlier, Mohamed Salah scored twice to lift Liverpool to a 2-0 victory over 10-man Everton.

The results:

Premier League: Liverpool 2 (Salah 75-pen, 90+7) bt Everton 0; Bournemouth 1 (Solanke 17) lost to Wolves 2 (Matheus Cunha 47, Kalajdzic 88); Brentford 3 (Wissa 25, Mbeumo 62, Ghoddos 87) bt Burnley 0; Newcastle United 4 (Murphy 4, Gordon 44, Longstaff 45+2, Wilson 66) bt Crystal Palace 0; Manchester City 2 (Alvarez 7, Haaland 19) bt Brighton 1 (Fati 73); Nottingham Forest 2 (Wood 48, 76) drew with Luton Town 2 (Ogbene 83, Adebayo 90+2); Chelsea 2 (Palmer 15, Mudryk 48) drew with Arsenal 2 (Rice 77, Trossard 84).

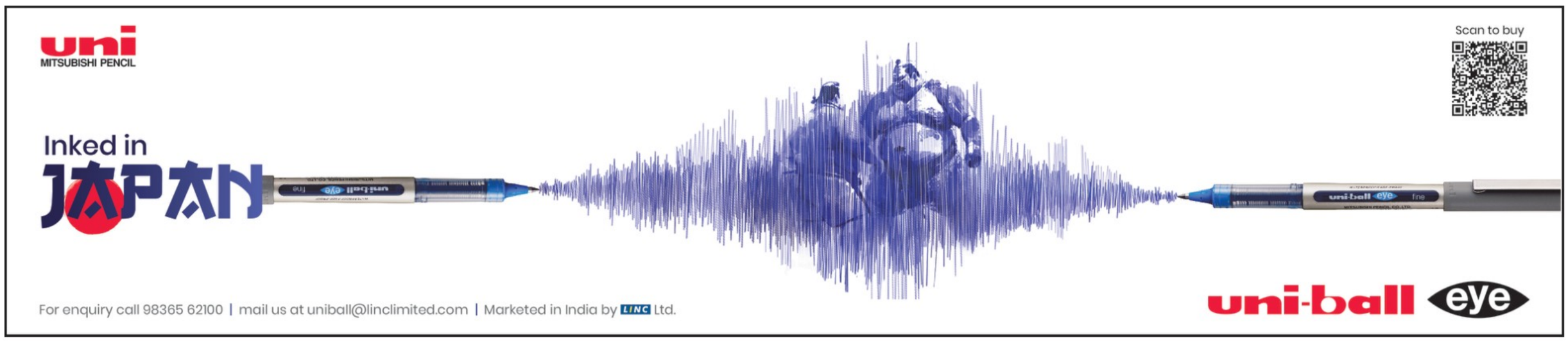
LaLiga: Real Sociedad 1 (Mendez 64) bt Real Mallorca 0; Getafe 1 (Mayoral 17) drew with Real Betis 1 (Roca 1); Sevilla 1 (Alaba 74-og) drew with Real Madrid 1 (Carvajal 78)

Serie A: Verona 1 (Lazovic 60) lost to Napoli 3 (Politano 27, Kvaratskhelia 43, 55); Torino 0 lost to Inter Milan 3 (Thuram 59, Martinez 67, Calhanoglu 90+5).

Bundesliga: Union Berlin 0 lost to Stuttgart 3 (Guirassy 16, Silas 81, Undav 88); Wolfsburg 1 (Lacroix 41) lost to Bayer Leverkusen 2 (Frimpong 13, Grimaldo 62); Darmstadt 1 (Kempe 32-pen) lost to RB Leipzig 3 (Openda 1, 72, Forsberg 24).

On Friday:

Bundesliga: Borussia Dortmund 1 (Brandt 67) bt Werder Bremen 0.



INBRIEF

It's now the turn of the Para athletes to reap a rich haul

Tokyo Paralympics gold medallists Avani Lekhara and Sumit Antil will lead India's biggest-ever contingent as the country aims for a record medal haul in the Para Asian Games, which commences here on Sunday. Star shooter Avani, who won a gold and a bronze medal in Tokyo Paralympics, and javelin thrower Antil, who also clinched a yellow metal in the Japanese capital in 2021, will be among a host of Indian medal contenders in the continental showpiece, which will continue till October 28.

Sub-junior hockey: HUTN blanks Andhra Pradesh 4-0

Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu (HUTN) blanked Andhra Pradesh (AP) 4-0 in a boys' league match of the South Zone sub-junior (u-15) hockey championships in Chennai on Saturday.

The results: Boys: Le Puducherry bt Telangana 6-0; Kerala drew with Karnataka 2-2; HUTN bt AP 4-0.
Girls: Kerala bt Telangana 11-0; AP bt Le Puducherry 14-0; HUTN drew with Karnataka 1-1.

Charlton — England and United great — passes away

Bobby Charlton, an English icon who survived a plane crash that decimated a Manchester United team destined for greatness to become the heartbeat of his country's 1966 World Cup-winning team, has died. He was 86. A statement from Charlton's family, released by United, said he died on Saturday surrounded by his family. He is survived by his wife, Norma, whom he married in 1961, and his two daughters.

Ramkumar in singles final; Prajwal, Nitin duo clinches title

Fourth seed Ramkumar Ramanathan defeated top seed Nick Chappell of the United States 3-6, 6-3, 7-6(2) in the semifinals of the $25,000 ITF Dharwad Men's World Tennis Tour here. In the other semifinal, Digvijay Pratap took out second seed Bobrov Bogdan 6-4, 6-7(2), 6-4. In the doubles final, Prajwal Dev and Nitin Kumar Sinha got past Sai Karteek and Manish Sureshkumar 6-4, 6-3.

The results:
Singles (semifinals): Ramkumar Ramanathan bt Nick Chappell (USA) 3-6, 6-3, 7-6(2); Digvijay Pratap bt Bogdan Bobrov 6-4, 6-7 (2), 6-4.
Doubles (final): Prajwal Dev & Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Sai Karteek & Manish Sureshkumar 6-4, 6-3.

LIVE TELECAST

Men's Cricket World Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 2 p.m.
Badminton: Denmark Open, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 3.30 p.m.
Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 4, 6.30, 9.30 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Monday)
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 5.30, 7.45, 10 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Monday)
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 & 9 p.m.
ISL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Monday)
Formula One: United States GP, F1 TV & F1 TV Pro App, 12.30 a.m. (Monday)

NEUFC holds Blasters; Goa stuns East Bengal

Danish's strike helps Kerala walk away with a point at home; Marquez's side scores twice in quick succession to shock the Kolkata outfit

ISL-10

Stan Rayan
KOCHI

Juan Pedro, the NorthEast United coach, had promised a nice evening of football when he spoke on the eve of the Indian Super League match against Kerala Blasters at the Nehru Stadium here. He should be a happy man too on Saturday night as his team forced the Blasters to a 1-1 draw in a stadium overflowing with fans roaring for their team.

The goals, scored by NEUFC's Nestor Roger and Blasters' Danish Farooq, were lovely ones too.

Sports Bureau reports

Marksmen: Blasters and Goa walked away with points after finding themselves trailing in the first half. THULASI KAKKAT, BISWARANJAN ROUT

FC Goa secured its third consecutive win by defeating East Bengal FC 2-1 at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, courtesy quick goals in the second half by Sandesh Jhingan and Victor Rodriguez.

The results: Kerala Blasters FC 1 (Danish Farooq 49) drew with NorthEast United FC 1 (Nestor Albiach 12); East Bengal 1 (Mahesh Singh 41) lost to FC Goa 2 (Jhingan 74, Rodiguez 75).

Umesh and Karun are the architects of Vidarbha's win

MUSHTAQ ALI TROPHY

Sports Bureau

Umesh Yadav picked up five for 33 and Karun Nair followed it up with a fine unbeaten 95 as Vidarbha registered a seven-wicket win over Bengal in Group-D of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 cricket tournament at Mohali on Saturday.

The scores:
Group-A: At Jaipur:
Chhattisgarh 162/7 in 20 overs (Harpreeet Singh 30, Sanjeet Desai 39 n.o., Ajay Mandal 49, Akash Choudhary 3/36, Anish Charak 3/41) bt Meghalaya 96/9 in 20 overs (Sumit Ruikar 3/16).
Mumbai 138/5 in 20 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 50, Ajinkya Rahane 31) bt J&K 101 in 17.3 overs (Abdul Samad 38, Shams Mulani 3/18).
Haryana 155/6 in 20 overs (Rahul Tewatia 54, Atit Sheth 4/29) lost to Baroda 156/5 in 19 overs (Krunal Pandya 43 n.o.).
Mizoram 114 in 20 overs (Ravi Teja 3/30) lost to Hyderabad 115/4 in 15.1 overs (K. Rohit Rayudu 41, Tilak Varma 40 n.o.).
Group-B: At Mumbai: Odisha 142/8 in 20 overs (Swastik Samal 39) lost to Services 146/7 in 19.5 overs (Vineet Dhankhar 32, Mohit Ahlawat 30, Debabrata Pradhan 3/14).
Kerala 193/4 in 20 overs (Rohan Kunnummal 30, Varun Nayanar 47, Vishnu Vinod 42, Sanju Samson 52) bt Chandigarh 186/6 in 20 overs (Manan Vohra 95 n.o., Bhagmender Lather 31).
Group C: At Ranchi: Gujarat 165 in 19.2 overs (Urvil Patel 32, Aarya Desai 62 n.o., Cheepurapalli 3/25) lost to Andhra 166/2 in 17.4 overs (K.S. Bharat 60, Ashwin Hebbar 53).
Manipur 93/8 in 20 overs lost to Punjab 94/2 in 9.2 overs (Abhishek Sharma 53, Prabhsimran Singh 30 n.o.).
Saurashtra 198/7 in 20 overs (Tarang Gohel 46, Sheldon Jackson 32, Vishvaraj Jadeja 38, Jay Gohil 47) lost to Railways 199/7 in 20 overs (Pratham Singh 45, Mohammed Saif 47 n.o., Ashutosh Sharma 45, Pranav Karia 3/35, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja 3/41).
Arunachal Pradesh 113/7 in 20 overs (Ayush Awasti 48, Deepraj Gaonkar 3/9) lost to Goa 114/1 in 8.1 overs (Ishaan Gadekar 58, Rahul Tripathi 35 n.o.).
Group-D: At Mohali: Bengal 212/8 in 20 overs (Abhimanyu Easwaran 60, Abhishek Porel 43, Umesh Yadav 5/33, Akshay Karnewar 3/32) lost to Vidarbha 214/3 in 17.5 overs (Atharva Taide 30, Karun Nair 95 n.o.).
Rajasthan 161/8 in 20 overs (Mukul Choudhary 35, Mahipal Lomror 42, Rahul Shukla 3/23) bt Jharkhand 143/7 in 20 overs (Virat Singh 31, Supriyo Chakraborty 38 n.o.).
Puducherry 141/7 in 20 overs (Akash Kargave 33, M. Viknesh 38 n.o.) lost to Maharashtra 142/2 in 14.1 overs (Arshin Kulkarni 47, A.R. Bawane 81 n.o.).
Group-E: At Dehradun:
Karnataka 136/5 in 20 overs (Abhinav Manohar 44, Lalit Yadav 3/19) lost to Delhi 137/2 in 16.5 overs (Priyansh Arya 51, Anuj Rawat 38)
MP 168/5 in 20 overs (Ajay Rohera 49, Rajat Patidar 47, Venkatesh Iyer 43 n.o.) bt Tripura 131 in 19.4 overs (Manisankar Murasingh 38, Rahul Batham 3/16).
UP 187/6 in 20 overs (Abhishek Goswami 36, Nitish Rana 32, Rinku Singh 58 n.o.) bt Nagaland 100/7 in 20 overs (R.S. Jaganathsinivas 31 n.o., Prashant Veer 3/7).

Dyf should make amends in feature

HYDERABAD: Trainer Adhirajsingh Jodha's Dyf, who ran a close second to King's Ransom in the Indian St. Leger at Pune, should make amends in the Golconda St. Leger, the main attraction of Sunday's (Oct. 22) races.

1 PEDDAPALLI PLATE (Div. II) (1,200m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 1.30 p.m.: 1. Pinatubo (2) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 60, 2. Capriati (6) Akshay Kumar 57.5, 3. Thunder Knight (5) Ajay Kumar 56.5, 4. Fatuma (7) A.M. Tograllu 56, 5. Alpine Girl (3) Mohit Singh 55.5, 6. Warwick (4) P. Ajeeth Kumar 54.5, 7. Great Combo (1) R.S. Jodha 53 and 8. Deccan Ranger (8) Afroz Khan 50.5.
1. CAPRIATI, 2. PINATUBO, 3. THUNDER KNIGHT

2 PEDDAPALLI PLATE (Div. I) (1,200m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 2.05: 1. Classy Dame (1) Md. Ekram Alam 60, 2. Royal Star (9) Afroz Khan 59, 3. The Hambone (8) Vive G 57.5, 4. Golden Forza (4) Kuldeep Singh (Jr) 56.5, 5. First Class (2) Akshay Kumar 56, 6. Soorya Vahan (7) Md. Ismail 55.5, 7. Bold Beauty (5) Ajay Kumar 53, 8. Ok Boss (6) Mohit Singh 53 and 9. Rochelle (3) Santosh Raj 50.5.
1. FIRST CLASS, 2. BOLD BEAUTY, 3. GOLDEN FORZA

3 HYDERABAD CITY POLICE COMMISSIONER'S CUP (Div. II) (1,200m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 2.40: 1. See My Spark (4) Shivansh 60, 2. High Reward (2) R.S. Jodha 57, 3. Nucleus (5) Mohit Singh 54.5, 4. Exclusive Luck (7) Md. Ismail 54, 5. Cabello (6) Santosh Raj 53.5, 6. Aurele (8) Abhay Singh 52.5, 7. Life's Living (1) Ajay Kumar 52, 8. Salisbury (9) S. Saqlain 51.5, 9. Wind Sprite (3) Afroz Khan 51.5 and 10. Power Ranger (10) Surya Prakash 50.5.
1. LIFE'S LIVING, 2. NUCLEUS, 3. EXCLUSIVE LUCK

4 GOLCONDA ST. LEGER (Gr. II) (2,800m), 4-y-o and 5-y-o and upwards – 3.15: 1. Dyf (2) P. Trevor 57, 2. Karanveer (3) Vivek G 57 and 3. Monteverdi (1) Suraj Narredu 57.
1. DYF

5 MIRZA ZUNNUR AHMED MEMORIAL CUP (1,600m), rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 3.50: 1. Mark My Day (2) Md. Ekram Alam 60, 2. Rival (4) Akshay Kumar 59.5, 3. Lucky Zone (3) P. Trevor 59, 4. Only My Way (7) Afroz Khan 54, 5. Shadow Of The Moon (1) S. Saqlain 53.5, 6. Lady Danger (6) Abhay Singh 51 and 7. Excellent Spark (5) Santosh Raj 50.5.
1. RIVAL, 2. EXCELLENT SPARK, 3. LUCKY ZONE

6 HYDERABAD CITY POLICE COMMISSIONER'S CUP (Div. I) (1,200m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 – 4. 25: 1. Hugh Capet (3) Deepak Singh 60, 2. Bangor On Dee (2) A. Imran Khan 59.5, 3. Stag's Leap (6) Akshay Kumar 56.5, 4. Stoic Hero (9) P. Ajeeth Kumar 54.5, 5. Star Racer (11) Kuldeep Singh (Jr) 54, 6. Top In Class (5) Mohit Singh 53.5, 7. N R I Fantasy (4) Vivek G 52.5, 8. Star Medal (1) Md. Ekram Alam 52, 9. Dyanoosh (10) Surya Prakash 51.5, 10. Clefairy (7) Ajay Kumar 50.5 and 11. Malibu (8) Afroz Khan 50.5.
1. BANGOR ON DEE, 2. STAR MEDAL, 3. STAG'S LEAP

7 HARD HELD PLATE (1,400m), 5-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 5.00: 1. Starwalt (3) Mohit Singh 60, 2. Angel Tesoro (12) Md. Ismail 59, 3. D World (7) Deepak Singh 58.5, 4. Advance Guard (11) P. Ajeeth Kumar 57.5, 5. Blast In Class (9) Ajay Kumar 57, 6. Delhi Heights (10) Abhay Singh 57, 7. Char Ek Char (1) Surya Prakash 55, 8. Royal Pal (8) Md. Ekram Alam 55, 9. Spectacular Cruise (2) Kuldeep Singh (Jr) 54, 10. Creative Force (5) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 52.5, 11. Sucker Punch (6) Vivek G 52.5 and 12. Good Tidings (4) Akshay Kumar 51.5.
1. GOOD TIDINGS, 2. ROYAL PAL, 3. BLAST IN CLASS

Day's Best: **FIRST CLASS**

Jackpot: 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7; Mini Jackpot: (i) 1, 2, 3 & 4. (ii) 4, 5, 6 & 7; Treble: (i) 3, 4 & 5. (ii) 5, 6 & 7; Tanala: All races.

Kapil Anand and Sneha clinch best athlete titles

DASARA CM CUP

Sports Bureau
MYSURU

Kapil Anand (South Western Railway, Hubli) who won the triple jump gold (1008 points) and S.S.Sneha (Income-Tax Dept., Mangalore) who won the 100m gold (1108 points) clinched the best athletes titles in the men's and women's sections respectively on the concluding day of the athletics event of the Dasara CM Cup 2023, at the Chamundivihar stadium here on Saturday.

Vaibhav Maruthi Patil (DYES, Bengaluru) won his second gold in the meet (after the 5000m on day one) by clinching the men's 10,000m event in 33:00.31s. G.C. Guruprasad (Mysuru) won his second title in the meet (after the 400m on day two) by clinching the 200m event in 22:09s.

B. Chethan (BUDAA) scaled a height of 2.03m to clinch the men's High Jump gold. V. Ambika of Mysuru won the shot put women's title with a throw of 14.20m.

The results:
Athletics: Men: (winners): 200m: G.C. Guruprasad (Mysuru) 22.09s; **10,000m:** Vaibhav Maruthi Patil (DYES, Bengaluru), 33:00.31s; **110m Hurdles:** M.D. Sushanth (Udupi) 14.85s; **400m Hurdles:** M.D. Amarnath (Udupi) 53.71s; **High Jump:** B. Chethan (BUDAA) 2.03m; **Javelin:** Sharukh Tarihal (KSP, Bengaluru), 60.95m. **Best athlete: Men:** Kapil Anand (SWR, Hubli) 1008 points. **Women: 200m:** Jyothika (ASF) 24.96s; **10,000m:** K.M.Archana (Mysuru) 37:44.03s; **400m Hurdles:** Shreya R. (BUDAA, Bengaluru) 1:02.04s; **100m Hurdles:** C. Anjali (Dakshina Kannada) 13.68s; **Shot Put:** V. Ambika (Mysuru) 14.20m. **Best athlete: Women:** S.S. Sneha (Income-Tax Dept, Mangaluru) 1108 points. **Basketball: Men: Final:** Young Orions, Bengaluru bt Bank of Baroda, Bengaluru 96-71. **Women:** Mounts Club, Bengaluru bt DYES, Mysuru 52-44. **Football: Men: Final:** Mysuru bt Hassan 4-3 (via tie-breaker) 0-0 at full-time. **Handball: Men: Final:** Bengaluru Rural bt Mysuru 32-29. **Women:** Davanagere bt Belagavi 18-12. **Hockey: Men: Final:** Hassan bt Dharwad 4-1. **Women:** Mysuru bt Dakshina Kannada 3-0. **Kabaddi: Men: Final:** Dakshina Kannada bt Hassan 38-32. Women: Dakshina Kannada bt Ramnagara 29-21. **Kho-Kho: Men: Final:** Bagalkot bt Belgaum 19-15. **Women:** Yadgir bt Belgaum 7-6. **Netball: Men: Final:** Dakshina Kannada bt Mysuru 42-26. **Women:** Bengaluru City bt Dakshina Kannada 43-31. **Volleyball: Men: Final:** Ramnagara bt Bengaluru Postal 25-16, 25-22. **Women:** Mysuru bt Dakshina Kannada 25-12, 25-18. **Cycling: Men: 80km Mass start race-new:** 1. Nandeep Savadi (Belagavi). **Women: 80km Mass start race new:** 1. Payal Khushi Lal Chavan (Vijaypura). **Badminton: Men: Individual singles:** Prateek K. **Women:** Hitiashree L.R.
Table Tennis: Individual Singles: Men: Sreenivasa Sai Krishna Kartik. **Women:** Preksha P. Kareka. **Doubles:** Preksha P Kareka & Nahla Fathima.
Wrestling: Men: Upto 57kg Freestyle: Khazamaiddin. **Upto 65kg Freestyle:** Umesh Yellappa S.. **Upto 70kg Freestyle:** Mahantesh Gaddi. **Upto 79kg Freestyle:** Darshan D.A.. **Upto 86kg Freestyle:** Mallesh Shankar M.. **Upto 92kg Freestyle:** Panduranga Sambaji Shinde. **Upto 97kg Freestyle:** Bapusahib S.. **125 Plus kg Freestyle:** Shivanand Suresh Ambi.
Women: Upto 50kg Freestyle: Shwetha S.A.. **Upto 53kg Freestyle:** Kavya T.D. **Upto 55kg Freestyle:** Aishwarya K.. **Upto 57kg Freestyle:** Gayatri R.S.. **Upto 59kg Freestyle:** Laxmi Sanjay Patil. **Upto 65kg Freestyle:** Princeta P.F.. **Upto 68kg Freestyle:** B. Pratkisha.

Guruprasad, winner of the 200m and 400m.

Chethan, high jump gold.

Sneha... best athlete.

SNAPSHOTS

Krauter takes a two-stroke lead

A birdie-birdie finish saw Diksha Dagar end the day at the fourth spot even as overnight leader Aline Krauter moved to a two-stroke lead over Sara Kjeller after the penultimate round of the $400,000 Hero Women's Indian Open golf in Gurugram on Saturday.

Leading scores: 205: Aline Krauter (Ger) (69, 68, 68); **207:** Sara Kjellker (Swe) (73, 66, 68); **209:** Madelene Stavnar (Nor) (66, 74, 69); **210:** Diksha Dagar (67, 72, 71); **212:** Hannah Burke (Eng) (70, 70, 72), Vani Kapoor (68, 70, 74); **213:** Gabriella Cowley (Eng) (72, 74, 67), Anne-Charlotte Mora (Fra) (73, 72, 68) and Avani Prashanth (71, 70, 72).

Young Vaishali secures her third and final GM-norm

R. Vaishali secured her third and final GM-norm in the Qatar Masters chess tournament on Saturday. With a live rating of 2467.7, she is now less than 32.3 points away from crossing the Elo rating of 2500 and becoming a GM.

GM Nodirbek Yakubboev of Uzbekistan (7 points) won the tournament and Uzbekistan's Nodirbek Abdusattorov (7) came second while India's S. L. Narayanan finished third, with 6.5 points.

If Vaishali achieves the 2500-mark, she will be India's third woman GM after K. Humpy and D. Harika.

Rajiv Sethu.

Sindhu loses in ill-tempered semifinal

P.V. Sindhu lost to her old nemesis Carolina Marin of Spain in three games in an ill-tempered semifinal of the Denmark Open Super 750 tournament, which saw both players receive yellow cards for verbal exchanges, here on Saturday.

Sindhu went down 18-21, 21-19, 7-21 in the match that lasted one hour and 13 minutes.

Rajiv's dominant run continues

Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) continued his dominant run in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category by roaring to his eighth consecutive win at the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit, in Chennai on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Senthil Kumar (LGE Racing) notched up his first win in five years with a surprise victory in a dramatic Pro-Stock 165cc Open class race.

The results (winners only, all six laps unless mentioned): National Championship, Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open: Race-1 (4 laps): Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (07mins, 33.050secs). **Pro-Stock 165cc Open: Race-1:** Senthil Kumar C (LGE Racing) (12:03.541). **Novice (Stock 165cc): Race-1:** Savion Sabu (Axor Sparks Racing) (12:56.047). **Support Race 301-400cc Novice:** Aldrin Babu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) (12:41.728). **Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup – NSF 250R: Race-1:** Kavin Quintal (11:17.416). **Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310): Race-1:** Chiranth Vishwanath (11:35.230). **Girls (Apache RTR 200) (5 laps):** Nadine Faith Balaji (11:16.072).

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